

OSWESTRY & BORDER CHRONICLE



Thursday, March 20, 2014

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Property

The best properties for sale in the area

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Turbines 'to result in clogged up roads'

A CONVOY of lorries carrying wind turbine parts could bring main roads to a halt five days if controversial wind farm plans are given the go ahead.

A planning inquiry in Welshpool heard that the abnormal load lorries would pass through the region en route from Ellesmere Port to wind farms in Mid Wales every day for three to five years.

Dyfed-Powys and West Mercia Police officers would work on rest days to provide an escort along the route.

This would see lorries go down the A483 past Wrexham, into Shropshire at Oswestry and then into Powys through Llanymynech, Welshpool, Newtown and onwards to one of the five planned wind farms.

The cost of the policing would be met by the haulier, the public inquiry into the wind farms heard at the Royal Oak on Tuesday.

It is proposed to build wind farms in Llanbadarn Fynydd, near Llandrindod Wells; Llaithddu, near Newtown; Llandinam, near Llanidloes; Llanbrynmair, near Machynlleth; and Carnedd Wen, near Machynlleth.

The inquiry was triggered when the county council refused to support their construction.

Jobs boost as store opens

A HOME furnishings shop is set to open in Oswestry creating seven jobs.

Ponden Home will open today in the former Ethel Austin shop, which has been empty since 2012.

Callum Dunsmore, spokesman for Ponden Home, which sells soft furnishings and home accessories, said: "We know the town well because we're part of Edinburgh Woollen Mill, which has a shop in the town."

"We're looking forward to the opening."

Chance to name new street in town and win a prize



An artist's impression

OSWESTRY residents are being given the chance to name a new street in their town.

Shropshire Towns and Rural Housing is building 19 homes off Swan Lane, replacing flats that have been demolished. They will include 15, three bedroomed and four, two bedroomed houses.

The development is part of the housing organisation's larger, affordable homes programme to build 68 new properties in the Oswestry and Bridgnorth areas.

The housing organisation is asking local residents to help name the street with the winner receiving £100 worth of high street vouchers, donated by building contractor, Speller Metcalfe.

Jason O'Donoghue, for Shropshire Towns and Rural Housing said new streets should be named after people, places or events associated with the local area.

"Proposed names should meet one of the following criteria: To commemorate local history, places,

events or culture; To honour and commemorate noteworthy persons associated with the area; to celebrate cultural diversity; to commemorate national and international noteworthy people or events; to strengthen neighbourhood identity or to recognise native wildlife, flora, fauna or natural features."

Councillor Vince Hunt, Local Member for Oswestry West, added: "This redevelopment is going to be a breath of fresh air for the local

communities. I am delighted that our residents have the opportunity to put forward ideas for the street naming competition."

For further details, terms and conditions and to enter the competition, go to <http://www.starhousing.org.uk/swan-rename/>

If you don't have access to a computer you can call 01743 210206 for an entry form and copy of the street naming guidelines.

The closing date for suggestions will be on April 21 at 5pm.

Company boosting students' skill sets

A WELSHPOOL company says it is working to ensure the town's youngsters are given the skills to ensure they are employable after leaving education.

Variable speed drives manufacturer Invertek Drives says it is working closely with Welshpool High School to make sure the students have 'workplace schools'.

The company said it has provided the school with including whiteboards, computer software and iPads which are used in language lessons.

Charles Haspel, operations director, said: "Historically, post-18 opportunities in Welshpool have been limited and the town has seen many of its youngsters leave to pursue either further education or employment opportunities elsewhere."

Engineer David Jones-Evans added: "As a high-tech industry, we are keen to raise awareness of the opportunities on offer at Invertek for young people. We run a number of work experience and industrial placement programs."

Natasha O'Sullivan, the school's head of Spanish, said: "Giving students a real insight into industry is invaluable in opening their eyes to the array of opportunities open to them."

Booka wins a top award

AN Oswestry bookshop has been named one of the seven best independent bookshops in the UK and is now in the running to be crowned the Independent Bookshop of the Year 2014.

Booka Bookshop in Church Street, Oswestry, has been chosen as the best independent bookshop in the Midlands and Wales at the Bookseller Industry Awards.

The overall winner will be revealed at The Bookseller Industry Awards on May 12.

PLEDGE ON TOWN 999 COVERAGE

ASSURANCES about ambulance cover in Oswestry were made this week after it was revealed that the town is among the busiest areas for emergency call-outs in the county.

The town has been placed third in West Midlands Ambulance Service's status plan, which determines which parts of the county require the most ambulance cover.

John Wright, assistant general manager oversees the service in Shropshire, said as a consequence there will always be an ambulance either in Oswestry or on the way to the town.

"Oswestry is a high activity area and we can't afford to leave it empty. I do monitor that regularly," he said.

"With the use of the status plan, nine out of 10 times there will be another vehicle coming this way, probably from Shrewsbury, to cover this area to give that level of cover."

"Oswestry is in position three so even if the ambulance does go then other ambulances will come up to provide cover."

"What we're looking at with the Clinical Commissioning Group is to bring back a car as well as the ambulance. The ambulance would come and go but the car would always be here."

"We do monitor it very closely to make sure we're looking after everybody."

Mr Wright was speaking at a meeting of Oswestry Town Council on Monday after being invited to talk to councillors about changes to the Ambulance Service in Shropshire.

Mr Wright said: "The big change that happened recently is that we've now put

by Pam Kingsley

ambulances back into a certain number of market towns.

"We had some issues. We had some lengthy delays in getting ambulances out to those in certain areas of the county so we made the decision to put ambulances back to some of the market towns, Oswestry being one."

Needed

"We were keen to keep the advanced paramedic scheme and so we put the paramedics into the ambulances. On paper it appears like we've reduced the ambulance service in Oswestry from two to one, but what it actually does is allows the vehicles to move around Oswestry to where the next ambulance is likely to be needed."

"We're now putting out 20 ambulances a day. This is significantly higher than it was previously. As well as cars in some of the market towns. We will have 30 more staff coming in by November at the latest I would think, and I would like to get it up to 24 double crewed ambulances during peak times."

World crisis warning from Bell



Martin Bell at the inaugural Wilfred Owen Lecture

FORMER war correspondent Martin Bell delivered a passionate speech on the futility of war at the Oswestry Literary Festival.

Mr Bell made the inaugural Wilfred Owen lecture, on Tuesday night, on the anniversary of the Oswestry poet's birth, in the Holy Trinity Church at which Owen was christened in 1893. He died on the battlefields of France in 1918, seven days before peace was declared.

Mr Bell said: "We live, in my view, in the most dangerous times since 1945. Sending the armed forces to war is the most serious decision a government ever takes. It is quite literally a matter of life and death."

Revealing that he had carried a battered copy of Owen's poems with him when he reported on wars across the world, the 'man in the white suit' said Owen had been the greatest English poet who ever lived.

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PICTURE PREVIEW



Janet Parry receives a long service award. Turn to page 8.

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Budget receives mixed reaction on the border

by Sue Austin

SCRAPPING the planned increase on fuel duty and measures to help businesses in yesterday's Budget received a mixed reception in the Oswestry and border areas.

The Chancellor delivered his fifth Budget in the House of Commons saying it was a budget for the maker, doer or saver.

Warmly welcomed was the dropping of a fuel tax increase.

John Smallman, owner of independently owned National Windscreens' branch in Oswestry, said: "We have 25 vehicles on the road and spend in the region of £83,000 every year on fuel so of course the scrapping of the planned fuel duty increase is more than welcomed."

"The money which will now be saved by the scrapping of the fuel duty hike in yesterday's budget can be invested in the business and in providing further job opportunities in the future."

However Steve Kay, chairman of the Federation of small businesses in Powys, said there was still nothing in the budget for small businesses.

"The government has failed small businesses again. We have been campaigning for a re-think on the sliding scale for business rates for years and still nothing has happened. Unless small businesses are allowed to compete on a level playing field they won't be able to employ more people."

Heather Noble, chairman of Oswestry Chamber of Commerce said: "Initially impressions suggest that businesses of all sizes stand to benefit from reductions in corporation tax, business rates and enhanced capital allowances."

Weather to inspire a poetry workshop

THE fickleness of the weather will provide plenty of inspiration for a poetry writing workshop to be held near Oswestry on Saturday.

Offa's Press will be running a poetry writing day on 'Wild Weather: the new normal?'

Simon Fletcher will lead the workshop with Marion Cockin asking the questions: How do you write poetry about the weather when the weather's gone completely wild? And how do we record the seasons when they appear to have gone haywire?

The day will run from 10am to 4pm and will be based at Pant Memorial Hall, opposite the Co-Op, Pant. It will include a walk and a picnic to experience the wild British weather so participants should bring food and suitable clothing.

Tickets cost £20 or £15 concessions.

For more information or to book a place go to info@offapress.co.uk or ring (01691) 831463.

Billy take up circus challenge



Billy Austin takes up circus challenge for charity.

ROLL up, roll up and meet the youngest circus ringmaster in the business.

Young Billy Austin found himself as master of ceremonies when the Funtasia Circus came to Oswestry - and ringmaster Tracy Jones was very impressed with the eight-year old's efforts in the ring.

But, the performance was tinged with sadness.

Billy is taking on a challenge each month to raise money to find a cure for the Motor Neurone Disease Association after his grandfather, Frank, was diagnosed with the condition.

Sadly, Mr Austin lost his fight on Friday night, but Billy still went ahead with his performance as part of the Funtasia Circus on Saturday, in front of more than 300 people when the big top came to town.

Ringmaster Tracy Jones, who tours with the Funtasia Circus, invited Billy to join her in the centre ring at Park Hall Showground.

"I'm friends with Billy's mother, Sally-Ann Morris, and we knew about his grandfather's serious illness," she said.

"He's taking on a different chal-

lenge a month, which I thought was a wonderful idea, so he came down to rehearse on Saturday morning before working as my assistant on during the afternoon."

A raffle was held during the show, which raised £350 for Billy's cause.

"Sadly Billy's grandfather passed away on Friday night but Billy was still brave enough to come along," said Ms Jones.

"He has always loved the circus and he was a natural. If we didn't do so much touring I would take him with me."

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Beers from around the world at festival

AN Oswestry pub will be serving ten ales from around the world alongside those from closer to home during a 17-day international beer festival.

The beers on offer at The Wilfred Owen in Willow Street have been brought in from brewers in South Africa, New Zealand, Sweden, Canada, USA, Belgium, Australia, Germany, Spain and Norway.

They will complement 15 beers from across the UK being served during the festival, which will run from March 28 to April 13.

Pub manager Christian Haigh, said: "We hold the beer festival three times a year in March, the summer and October, and all the staff love it. We always look forward to it and it always brings in new customers."

"Last year we had an American theme, and this time we're going international."

"The overseas beers have never previously been available as cask ales in the UK, which makes them even more special."

Many of the beers will be available in the pub for the first time, having been brewed exclusively for the festival.

Tasting notes on all of the beers will be available in the pub.

Councillor to hold surgery

OSWESTRY councillor Paul Milner will hold a surgery on March 29 in Oswestry Library from 11am to midday.

Councillor Milner represents the Victoria ward on Oswestry Town Council and the Morda and Sweeney ward on Oswestry Rural Parish Council.

Keeping Oswestry Alive campaign moves forward

by Sue Austin

THE Oswestry & Border Chronicle's "Keeping Oswestry Alive" campaign took a huge stride forward this week.

In association with the British Heart Foundation (BHF) and the West Midlands Ambulance Service The Chronicle has been appealing for help from readers and advertisers to set up a network of life saving defibrillators located in strategic areas across the town.

Orders have now been placed for five defibrillators thanks to a generous donation of over £300 from the British Ironworks.

Accountants to pedal their way to a cash bonus for Sport Relief

A team of accountants will be swapping their calculators for cycles as they attempt a 90 mile ride for Sport Relief.

However, the group from Morris Cook Accountants won't have to leave their Oswestry office to make the attempt, as they will be pedalling the distance on an exercise bike in the branch window.

Megan Jones, a partner at the firm, said: "We plan to cycle the mileage between the Oswestry, Llangollen, Ellesmere and Wellington offices."

"This mad idea somehow gained traction without us realising it."

"We're really hoping the people of Oswestry will take pity on us and lend a hand by jumping on the bike and pedalling a couple of miles. Perhaps some may throw a pound or two in the bucket as well."

"Sport Relief does such a magnificent job at home and abroad and we are keen to help them continue the great work."

The team will spend Friday on the exercise bike in the branch in Salop Road, Oswestry.

BodyTech gym, directly opposite the office, will be providing one of its state-of-the-art exercise bikes, and staff have mapped the virtual route to keep track of their progress during the day.

The Morris Cook Sport Relief Cycle Challenge will start at 9am and anyone is welcome to join in, or point and make fun in return for a donation.

"The appeal is a great idea and for a very worthy cause," said Mr Knowles. "We are really pleased to have been able to contribute and help ensure the orders could be placed."

Chronicle associate editor Graham Breeze said: "The contribution puts our fundraising efforts on target."

"Increased costs were delaying the process but this gesture by Clive Knowles and his team at The British Ironworks means we have been able to place the orders for all five units."

The first defibrillators will be placed at Powis Market Hall and the Principality Building Society in Leg Street in the next few weeks with more to follow at The Wynnistay Hotel, Powis Market Hall, Oswestry Senior Citizens Club in Lorne Street and at The Chronicle offices in Salop Road.

The contribution by British Ironworks added to donations from Meadows Primary School, The Wynnistay Hotel, Oswestry Town Council, Principality Building Society, Midland News Association, Morris Cook Accountants, Oswestry Senior Citizens' Club, Veolia staff and David Davies Undertakers.

Chronicle staff have also been out raising funds, running a half marathon and bag packing over Christmas at Morrisons supermarket as well as taking part in a sponsored alcohol-free January.

Various single donations and a sponsored swim by Ethan Lee-Birch helped the fund reach over £4,500.

Warren Appleby, Shropshire's Fundraising Volunteer Manager for the BHF, backed the appeal. "This is a very positive scheme and the British Heart Foundation is pleased to be associated," he said.

Community Paramedic Officer for Shropshire Terry Foster, of West Midlands Ambulance Service, said: "Bystander CPR is incredibly important because having people on hand who know what to do is crucial."

Livestock market work starts



Roy Jones, chairman of Oswestry Livestock Auctions, on site looking at the plans

A £45 million cinema and shopping complex for Oswestry is a step nearer after contractors moved in to start work on a new livestock market next door.

Four years after it was granted planning permission work is finally under way on the site of the town's Smithfield.

A new livestock market will be created on part of the 32-acre site off the Shrewsbury Road. Once that is up and running the current market will be demolished and builders will move in to create the shopping and cinema project.

A five-screen Cineworld cinema, a Morrisons supermarket, a Frankie and Bennys

and McDonald's restaurants will all be built during phase two of the project.

Roy Jones, chairman of the Oswestry Cattle Auctions, said: "This is the biggest development for Oswestry in a long time. It will bring people to the town. For me the cinema is the best part of phase two because people have to travel out of Oswestry for the cinema at the moment."

"Once building work is under way I believe more big names will want to take up a unit on the development."

Objectors to the scheme have raised fears that the new development will lure shoppers away from Oswestry town centre.

NEWS in brief

Elderly couple hit by burglary

AN elderly couple had money stolen after two men broke into their home in Whittington at 2-30pm on Saturday.

They forced their way into the house and searched a number of rooms before escaping with cash.

Detective Constable Rob Buxton, the investigating officer, said: "Entry was gained by forcing a door and a search was made of various rooms. The men were disturbed and ran off down Boot Street towards the church before turning right in front of the church and going out of view."

Both men were white and in their early 20s and wearing beanie style hats, one grey and the other black. Anyone with information should call 101.

Volunteers call to help young on trip

VOLUNTEERS are needed to make a dream holiday to Florida come true for disabled children and their families.

The search is on to find 32 helpers to accompany a group of 25 disabled children in December.

Caudwell Children, is appealing for volunteers from 18-years-of-age upwards.

For further information and an application pack contact the Caudwell Children's volunteers department on (01782) 600443 or email volunteering@caudwellchildren.com by April 4.

Inquest opens on man dead in wood

AN inquest has opened on a man who died in a woodland area near Oswestry.

Chris Davies, 20, of no fixed abode, was found in an area known as Pont Duncan, between Morda and Trefonen, on March 11, after a police search. Shropshire coroner John Ellery said the inquest would be heard on May 14.

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Writer is returning as guest speaker

A leading environmental journalist will be the guest speaker at a recycling group's annual lecture.

John Vidal, the environment editor at The Guardian, has been chosen as his subject Climate Change: Where are we now? for his talk on the evening of April 4.

The event will be held at Welshpool High School's Theatr Clera and has been organised by the Cae Post recycling organisation.

Organisers said Mr Vidal, who has worked for newspapers in North Wales, has strong Mid Wales and border links.

Susan Morley, chairman of Cae Post trustees, said: "Mr Vidal has more than 20 years experience writing on environmental and related issues for The Guardian and his lecture - which is free - is sure to be entertaining as well as informative."

"The Cae Post Lecture series is intended to bring together people in the Mid Wales and borders area to hear a prominent person in their field talk on a contemporary subject, and to stimulate ideas on tackling some of the issues of the day."

"At the inaugural lecture in January 2013, Jane Davidson, former Welsh Government Minister, spoke on Sustainable Wales."

Frustration at long wait for phone repairs

PHONE and broadband connections have finally been restored to homes in Llansilin - a month after they were first taken off line by the storms which ravaged Britain.

People living in the village said they were left without phone and broadband services following the storms in February - despite regular assurances

they would be fixed in a matter of days.

Most of the homes in the village were finally reconnected by March 12. Officials at BT have apologised for the disruption caused to locals, but have insisted engineers had undertaken "time consuming work" to get services restored.

While residents in Llany-niew, near Welshpool, were this week still waiting to have their phones or internet reconnected.

There are seven householders in the area who have been cut off since February 13, but BT has said it has been unable to set up a temporary service because two new poles have to be put in place. Phone lines were due to be restored by Wednesday. It comes after villagers in Lower Frankton, near Ellesmere, also lost phone and broadband connections following the storms.

Jeffrey Olstead, who lives

By Sue Austin

in Llansilin, said: "We all accept that exceptional storms create problems, but serious failures at management level, not the weather, are responsible for such incompetence. Worse still, since BT claim that the circumstances are beyond their control they incur no penalty for institutionalised failure."

Emma Tennant, spokeswoman for BT, said: "Every effort is made by Openreach to share the latest information with its customers - the hundreds of companies who provide telephone and broadband services - so they in turn can update their own customers on how repair work is progressing."

"Openreach apologises if some of the repairs have taken longer than expected due to the time-consuming work involved."

She added customers would be updated.

Rotary boost for Stroke Club



Rotarian Mike Jones and Michael Garratt

OSWESTRY Stroke Club has received more than £300 raised through the town's annual Tree of Light appeal.

The money was handed over this week by the Rotary Club of Oswestry, which runs the Tree of Light.

Rotary Club president Stuart Phillips said: "Oswestry Stroke Club has been a favourite charity of ours over many years and we are delighted to be able to make an increased donation this year."

We are also delighted that the Stroke Club will once again take part in our Health Awareness Day on April 26. The more people know about stroke, how to reduce its incidence and what services exist to help people suffering from the aftermath the better."

Michael Garratt, Stroke Club chairman, said: "With mobility one of the key issues, helping to provide transport to help members participate in activities is both a priority and the biggest cost in the budget."

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BREEZE ABOUT TOWN

If you shout loudly enough it really can pay off if the news about ambulance cover in Oswestry is anything to go by.

The people of Oswestry have been bombarding the West Midlands Ambulance Service with demands for better cover following the closure of the local station.

And this week one of the service's top men went on record as saying the needs of Oswestry for better cover had been recognised with assurances that the town will always have at least one ambulance and possible a response car too.

John Wright, assistant general manager of West Midlands Ambulance Service, who oversees the service in Shropshire, told Oswestry Town Council this week that there will always be an ambulance either in Oswestry or on the way to the town.

"Oswestry is a high activity area and we can't afford to leave it empty. I do monitor that regularly," he said.

It's taken the service far too long though to recognise that Oswestry is the third busiest town for ambulance call outs in Shropshire.

Sitting in a town centre office I am constantly aware of the number of times ambulances have to respond in Oswestry and just how someone thought they could manage without round-the-clock cover really does beggar belief.

Let's all just hope Mr Wright is not making idle promises. Time will tell.

Thanks

There's a big thanks to Chronicle readers this week for helping us achieve our target of being able to fund five potentially life-saving defibrillators for Oswestry.

The response to our appeal has been fantastic and readers and advertisers have contributed hard earned cash to help us reach our goal.

There is a real need for defibrillators in Oswestry and the target is to set up a network of life saving defibrillators located in strategic areas across Oswestry, aimed at providing rapid treatment for those suffering cardiac arrests.

With the closure of the town's ambulance station and greater demands on the ambulance service and first responders it is really important to provide as much support as possible.

Treatment within the first few minutes is so vital for cardiac arrest sufferers and we aim to make the people of Oswestry aware of where every defibrillator can be found and help ensure that the training is provided for users.



Crowds flocked to see last year's parade.



Colourful dancers attend from across Europe.



Plenty to entertain the crowds

Unwanted items help keep eisteddfod alive

IAIN St JOHN reports that crowds will flock from across Europe to visit the showpiece event in North Wales town

UNWANTED jewellery, foreign currency and mobile phones are helping Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod retain its place as Wales's centre for music, dance, costume and culture from around the world.

A host of international stars headed by rock legends Status Quo will line up for this year's festival near the Shropshire border from July 8 to 13, which will bring visitors flocking from across the globe.

But keeping the whole glittering affair running requires a huge fundraising effort and, as the Llangollen's festival support co-ordinator Christine Dukes explained, new ways of bringing in vital revenue are constantly being explored.

One of the latest ventures is a gem of an idea to recycle unwanted jewellery along with foreign currency and old mobile phones.

Mrs Dukes said: "We are always looking for new and novel ways of raising money to support the expense of staging our annual festival and exactly a year ago we decided to sign up to be involved with an organisation called Recycling For Good Causes.

"It's an ethical company which has been working successfully with a wide range of charities such as Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod since 1996.

"The idea behind it is that people bring in their unwanted items which are then collected by the company and sent away for recycling.

"Money raised from selling off the



Eisteddfod Financial Support Co-ordinator Christine Dukes with items do-

donated items is then sent back to the charity, which has no overheads to pay."

"It's a very simple idea which we introduced exactly a year ago and in the past 12 months we've raised quite a healthy amount of money from it.

"Basically, people are invited to donate items that they no longer have a use for.

"That might be jewellery that's gone out of fashion, foreign currency that could have been lying forgotten at the back of a draw for years or old mobile phones.

"Phones seem to become outmoded fairly quickly as newer, more sophisticated models are introduced all the time.

"The currency can be from the UK or any foreign country. It can be either coins or banknotes, and I think many

people still have some of that kind of thing lying around at home which they'd like to get rid of and benefit a good cause at the same time.

"We've had quite a few foreign banknotes, watches and even old trophies which had been handed out for sporting performance. There have also been a fair number of mobile phones of all makes and ages.

"But the thing we've had the most of by far is costume jewellery, in all shapes and sizes.

"Some of the items of jewellery, such as necklaces, have been broken but the good thing with this scheme is that you can still get money for them.

"Being part of Recycling For Good Causes has been a great success for us but, up to now, the people making donations have mainly been those who are associated in some way with Llangollen

International Musical Eisteddfod.

"We now want to spread the word about it as far as possible so that other people are encouraged to let us have their unwanted goods which we can sell on to ensure the fantastic festival we stage each year can continue to be the amazing success that it is.

"Goods can be brought in to the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod headquarters any day Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm and we would be delighted to receive all donations."

The curtain raiser for this year's Eisteddfod will mark the return of opera superstar Bryn Terfel to Llangollen.

The acclaimed bass baritone will be playing the lead in a special English-language production of Stephen Sondheim's Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street featuring an all-Welsh cast.

Over 30 young singing stars tried out for a prestigious role alongside opera Terfel at this summer's event.

The great bass-baritone from Caernarfon will head an all-star Welsh cast in a performance of Stephen Sondheim's Broadway smash hit Sweeney Todd, the Demon Barber of Fleet Street.

The show, first performed in 1979, will see Bryn Terfel play the title role of the murderous barber with a cast that also includes Carmarthen tenor Wynne Evans, Gio Compario of the Go Compare television ads.

After a day of auditions held in Cardiff's Wales Millennium Centre, and this month in Llangollen, a shortlist will be drawn up from a total of over 80 young singers performing so that Bryn Terfel can himself choose the three young unknowns who will take the stage alongside him.

This year's will also feature concerts by Dutch jazz sensation Caro Emerald and veteran British rockers Status Quo as well as a world premiere of a new work, Adiemus Colores, by top composer Karl Jenkins.

WORKING FOR YOU



Glyn Davies MP

I write this column without knowing the contents of Wednesday's Budget. But it is the major political issue of the week, so I should write about it.

And the background to the 2014 Budget is that the prospects for the economic position of the UK is far better than last year. Underpinning the good news is the return of real growth to the economy.

We have also seen a very encouraging and continuing fall in unemployment plus a reduction in the Government's annual deficit.

This good news is no more than a start. It is so easy to forget the disastrous position the UK economy was in when the Coalition came to power in 2010.

We are now out of 'intensive care', in the recovery ward, and looking forward to a successful future if only we stick with the treatment. But this improvement has created a bit of room to help people on the lowest incomes.


The most significant tax change over the last four years has been lifting people out of paying income tax altogether. In 2010 tax applied to all income over £6475. The Coalition Agreement promised to raise this figure to £10,000. We have done that, and we will go further.

In my view no-one on the minimum wage should be paying income tax. There has been huge understandable pressure to give help to higher rate taxpayers as well. I wish we could. But with so little scope for tax cuts this year, it must be right to focus on helping the lowest paid.

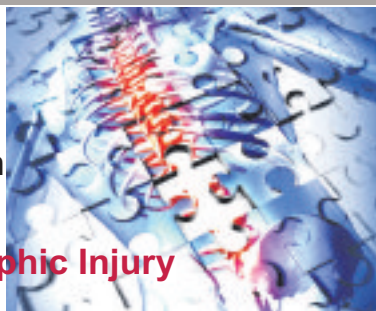
A second key issue for the Chancellor is how to increase the rate of house building. We have not been building enough new properties in Wales.

The Chancellor is doing all he can to encourage Councils to allow building. But the Government cannot solve the housing shortage on its own. We need a culture change in planning departments from a presumption to refuse to a presumption to approve.

There remains a huge amount to do to bring order to our public finances. But the position facing the Chancellor in 2014 is vastly better than in 2013. Our task is to ensure it has improved again by Budget Day 2015.



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CAN I GET ENFORCEMENT OF A COUNTY COURT JUDGMENT?

Q: Having obtained a judgment against a firm I did contract work for, they still have not paid me. The firm, also in the building trade, cite cash flow problems, but I know they are getting regular stage payments on a big construction contract that's ongoing. What can I do?

A: A third party debt order (previously known as a garnishee order) can be made where there is a debt due or accruing due to the judgment debtor from a third party. The Court is however likely to reject speculative claims so there must be witness evidence to show that a sub-contract exists, its extent and the value of stage payments or any retention pending completion of works. It would also be of benefit to supply details of the judgment debtor's bank account as such a procedure can also be used where money stands to the credit of a judgment debtor's bank account.

The procedure for obtaining a third party debt order is in two stages. An application without notice should be made to the Court for an interim third party debt order. If the judgment debtor or third party has prior knowledge of the application it may be less successful. Once the Court is satisfied that there is a debt due and accruing to the judgment debtor from the third party it then directs the third party not to make any payment which reduces the amount owed to the judgment debtor to less than the amount specified in the order i.e. your judgment debt. Indication is therefore needed as to the likely value of payments due to the judgment debtor from the third party.

A hearing is then listed for the Court to consider whether to make the interim order final, ordering the third party to pay monies directly to you rather than the judgment debtor in satisfaction of both debts.

Further information relating to this question is available from Nicholas Kennan, a Solicitor Advocate with GHP Legal.

For information relating to any other legal matter please call GHP Legal on 01691 659194 or visit www.ghplegal.co.uk. For Personal Injury and Family matters we offer a FREE legal diagnostic clinic every Wednesday 12-3pm (no appointment necessary). GHP Legal holds the Law Society Lexcel Quality Mark Accreditation



Thieves warned on risk of asbestos

IN training people how to handle asbestos safely, I see and hear many reports of unusual cases

But police reports of thieves stealing equipment from building sites is a very real warning that asbestos can be found in a host of places and even when labelled as hazardous, it is not stopping people risking their lives by handling it.

There is no known cure for diseases caused by asbestos and even the most cold hearted amongst us would hardly hand such a thief a death sentence and there is still a problem with children finding building sites attractive places to play.

For anyone who suspects they may have come into contact with asbestos, our advice would be to seek medical advice and if you have stolen the substance, report where you have left it to the police so no one else comes into contact with it and the asbestos can be safely disposed of.

People need to understand that asbestos remains the biggest cause of work related deaths in the UK and this hidden killer must only be handled by people trained to do so safely.

If in any doubt, experts will be able to advise on the appropriate action. Nichol Associates has spent years training and advising organisations throughout the country on such matters. Visit us at www.nicholasociates.co.uk for further information.

DAVID NICHOL
Nichol Associates

Action on care urged

THERE has been much coverage in the media of the crisis facing adult social care in England.

As a member of Shropshire Council's Rapid Action Scrutiny Group, I have repeatedly flagged up issues of this kind over the last few months. The council's response has been to set up more scrutiny on the subject and that has not started yet.

The time for scrutiny meetings is past. The council must act if we are to avoid a serious breakdown in our care services.

HEATHER KIDD
Rapid Action Group

PM missed chance to put Angela right

THE Prime Minister missed a golden opportunity to put Angela Merkel straight about the European Union.

He ought to have pointed out that this is not the Union we joined 40 years ago.

Even the word "union" does not apply anymore.

"Union" means united or joined, undivided – yet we have 17 euro-member nations on one side and 10 non-euro member nations on the other!

We also have 10 net contributing nations and 17 net gaining nations – unfortunately these two categories do not

match with the euro/non euro nations. The problem is compounded by the union's Qualified Majority Voting system (QVM), the most intricate, complicated system you have ever seen.

Member countries are awarded votes by size, from 29 votes down to three – it gives the 17 euro member countries a total of 246 votes and the 10 non-euro countries a total of 99 – logic tells us that Britain, which is a net contributing member not using the euro will never, ever win another vote in the European Union.

Logic also dictates that the 17 net

gaining member nations could propose that the 10 contributing nations continue subsidising them forever – and win the vote.

Members of any club are expected to abide by its rules.

Yet the rules of this club are constantly changing on the whim of some self-important, non-elected federalist in Brussels.

Face facts: We are paying £53 million every day to a clearly flawed, obviously failed enterprise. Get us out.

BOB WYDELL
Oswestry

Late Dad is 'lad' in football team pic

RE: the photograph on page 35 of the Chronicle Thursday, March 6th, 2014.

The 'lad' David Jones, is my father. Later he went into business as D.E. Jones Coal Merchant better known as Davy Jones the Coal.

He ran the two teams for a number of years and I remember many of the players in the photograph including the man sitting next to dad who was Bill Jones, not Bertie and he was my Godfather.

Dad was secretary, manager and player.

Just one thing though. Yes, mum was Scottish and she was from Glasgow – but she always supported Glasgow Rangers with the rest of her family.

It was dad who supported Celtic along with the Arsenal.

I remember the night that Glasgow Celtic became the first British team to win the European Cup.

Dad was dressed head to foot in the Celtic strip down to the socks and football boots and mum cheered along with him. I think a few 'wee drams' were imbibed as well.

Thank you Mr. Barrow for the memories. Dad is still going strong at the age of 92.

CHRISTINE HUGHES
Daughter.

Beware of lab secrecy

THIS week a pro-vivisection lobby group is staging what it calls an 'open labs' programme whereby students around the country have the chance of seeing an animal research lab.

The tours will probably be presented as a great feat of openness.

But this is seriously undermined by the secrecy clause in UK law that is used to prevent even the most basic information about animal experiments from being released.

ISOBEL HUTCHINSON
Animal Aid

Bird table had passers by seeing double



People driving down the Welshpool to Newtown road in the summer of 1983 could be forgiven for doing a double-take. Because they would see a 14th century farmhouse, the home of Mrs Mary Higgs, and a replica of her home – albeit in the form of a 15ins high bird table.

Diet high in protein poses risk

THIS week it was announced scientists in California have completed an 18-year study which concludes eating high levels of animal protein – such as meat, milk and eggs – increase the risk of death from cancer by four times and the overall likelihood of early death by 75 per cent in people aged 50-65.

The level of risk was even compared to that of smoking. It seems appropriate this news should come during National Veggie Month when Animal Aid is encouraging people to reduce their intake of animal products by taking our Big Veg Pledge. Readers wishing to take part or find out more can visit www.veggiemonth.com or call (017320) 364546.

BEN MARTIN
Animal Aid

LETTERS to the Editor

POST	FAX	E-MAIL
Readers' Letters, Oswestry Chronicle, Ketley, Telford, TF1 5HU	01952 254605	letters@oswestry chronicle.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters

Crow was honest and clear-sighted

WHILE most of us would not completely agree with everything that he said or did, the sudden death of Bob Crow, general secretary of the Rail, Maritime and Transport Union, has deprived us of an outstandingly courageous, honest and clear-sighted man.

In an age when legalised theft is dressed up by the spin doctors as "wealth creation" and increasing inequality is imposed on the disadvantaged, he was never in any doubt about where to point the finger.

When the Camerons, Cleggs, Milibands and their grasping cronies dance only to the tune of faceless corporations and tax-dodging billionaires, we could do with many more like Bob. May he rest in peace.

STEVE BOULDING
Shrewsbury and North Shropshire Green Party

Search on for sailors on carriers

DID you ever serve on any of the light fleet carriers, HMS Bulwark, HMS Albion, or HMS Centaur? Our Association is open to anyone who served on these ships.

This year's major event will be at Sheerness and Chatham in November for centenary commemorations of the sinking of the fifth HMS Bulwark in the Medway in 1914.

For our annual meeting/social this year we shall be at the Royal Clifton Hotel and Spa, Southport on May 9-12.

Membership is £8 and enquiries to Leigh Easton, Glenmoray, Hayford P1, Cambusbarron, Stirling, FK7 9JX, e-mail: ngsfo@tiscali.co.uk

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Launch of New Bathroom Displays

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Every visitor will receive a draw ticket to win an Ella Quadrant Shower Enclosure which features a satin chrome finish and sliding doors for easy access.

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Mothering Sunday Lunch
Sunday 30th March, 12 - 2pm

Fantastic homemade food using free range and ethically reared local produce including roast rib of Welsh beef, outdoor reared pork and free range chicken

3 courses £18.95 (Under 12 - £11.95)
...Our usual Sunday lunch price
Book now to avoid disappointment

Great Deals
Early Bird and Set Lunch menu
2 courses £11.95, 3 courses £15.50
Served Weds - Sat lunch and
Tues - Sat eves between 6 and 7pm

Sausage and Mash Wednesday
Free range Home Farm sausages, mash, peas and onion gravy - £7.95

Fish and Chip 'Fryday'
Fridays - Hand battered North Atlantic haddock, chunky chips, peas and home made tartare sauce - £8.50 (£7.50 takeaway)

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Fish and Chip 'Fryday'
Fridays - Hand battered North Atlantic haddock, chunky chips, peas and home made tartare sauce - £8.50 (£7.50 takeaway)

NEWS
in brief

Girl claims man was following her

POLICE are appealing for information after a young girl said she was followed by a man in a village.

Officers are treating the report as a suspicious incident and said it involved a seven-year-old girl who said she was followed by a man in Hammonds Place, Gobowen, at about 5.30pm on Wednesday, March 12.

Richard Ewels, spokesman for West Mercia Police, said: "The girl was not directly approached and nothing was said to her but she felt the man was following her.

"It is being treated as a suspicious incident but there may be an innocent explanation.

Blockbuster is being screened

THE film *Philomena* – starring Dame Judi Dench – will be shown at Trefonen Village Hall this weekend.

The movie, which depicts the story of an Irish woman searching for the son she was made to give away after being forced into a convent, will be screened on Saturday and will start at 7.30pm.

Tickets are £4 for adults and £2.50 for children.

Refreshments will be available, as well as a licensed bar.

For more information call (01691) 657011.

Face of town police station rewarded for long service

By Sue Austin

WHEN Janet Glister – now Janet Parry – began her job as a counter clerk at Oswestry's police station she could never have imagined some of the things that she has had to help with over the years.

From a pair of false teeth and a horse's head in her lost property office in Oswestry to dealing with people at the depths of despair, she says every day as public service officer and lost property officer is different.

This week Mrs Parry was given her 20-year long service award by West Mercia Police.

Editor to visit her old school

THE economics editor for *The Economist* magazine will return to her former school near Oswestry on Friday.

Zanny Minton Beddoes will be speaking to an audience of 300 businesspeople at Moreton School in Weston Rhyn during the school's Centenary Business Lunch.

"The response to the lunch has been outstanding," said school principal Jonathan Forster.

"Zanny is a leading voice on world economics and we are honoured that she has agreed to return to Moreton, in our centenary year, to give this talk. We encourage anyone with an interest in the global economy to attend."

The lunch is an annual event which has become a fixture in the business diaries of local and regional business leaders over the past five years.

Tickets are still available for the lunch priced £30. All proceeds will go towards the school's centenary scholarships fund.

And she stressed that, at the age of 59, she would be the face of the police in Oswestry for some time yet.

It has capped a whirlwind few weeks for Janet – who last month married her partner and childhood sweetheart and long-term partner Brian without telling anyone – even family members. She then surprised her colleagues in Oswestry by ringing them to announce the news while on holiday.

Presenting her with her award, Inspector Rik Klair said: "It is a long time to be at the sharp end. Our front counter staff have to deal with members of the public who are often in trauma. Sometimes we forget the effect that this can have on our staff."

Mrs Parry said she liked the variety of her job and said it was very different from her previous job in Woolworths.

"In a shop people are generally happy but those who turn up at a police station are usually in distress, whether angry, anxious, upset, worried or frightened, all negative feelings," she said. "I like to think that my job is to ensure that those who walk into the police station leave in a happier frame of mind."

"We try to give them the help they need whether that is from the police or, if not, pointing them to someone who can help them."



Former area commander Jim Stafford, area commander Rik Klair with Janet Parry

Planning complaints taken to minister

RESIDENTS of a village near Oswestry have taken their objections to plans for a 35-home housing estate to the Government.

Last month Shropshire Council granted planning permission for housing and four commercial units on land off Tedsmore in West Felton.

But both the parish council and parish plan steering group say councillors didn't follow national planning policy by allowing the development on top grade agricultural land. Both organisations have written to Eric Pickles, the local government minister, asking him to intervene.

Mr Steve Haworth, chairman of the Parish Plan steering group, said in granting permission, Shropshire Council said that it was following national planning guidelines of a presumption for permission being granted.

But he said: "That has to be if the development is sustainable, which is defined in three categories, economic, social and environmental. I believe that the guidelines were not followed because this application is not environmentally sustainable."

Mr Haworth said that if Mr Pickles intervened it could have huge ramifications for rural villages.



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Students get chance to travel the world

WANT to travel the world and learn more about agriculture in other countries?

Then this could be your chance as the Gareth Raw Rees Memorial Scholarship, supported by the NFU Mutual Charitable Trust, is making up to £2,500 available to lucky youngsters to make their travel dreams come true.

The scholarship, launched in 1984 in memory of the late Gareth Rees MBE, from Ceredigion, was renamed in 2008 thanks to an annual donation of £1,000 from the NFU Mutual Charitable Trust, is looking for applicants considering travelling in the UK, Europe or further afield.

If you are under 30 and would like some financial assistance with your travels then contact NFU Cymru for an application form – even if you have already received support from another scholarship or fund.

The closing date for applications is Friday, May 2 2014 and the winner will be announced at this year's Royal Welsh Show.

For an application form, contact Peter Howells at NFU Cymru on:

(01982) 554200 or download them online: www.nfu-cymru.org.uk/news or email: Peter.Howells@nfu.org.uk

Fraud claimed £17,500 tax in husband's name

A WIFE betrayed her husband to rake in more than £17,000 by falsifying his tax returns, a court heard.

Joanne Lloyd, 37, came up with her money-making plot in secret.

The first her husband knew about it was when tax officers demanded an answer and asked him to attend an interview.

Lloyd, of Old Mill Avenue, Morda, Oswestry, stole almost £17,600 in total, Shrewsbury Crown Court was told.

Her husband had no idea of her money-making plot and has since left her, the court heard.

Lloyd, who works at Newbridge Day Nursery, in Oswestry, was sentenced to a community order including 200 hours of unpaid work.

Mr Robert Edwards, prosecuting said: "On January 3 at this court the defendant pleaded guilty to one charge of fraud which brought together nine tax repayments made to this defendant and her husband.

"Her husband was completely innocent of any wrongdoing or knowledge."

He said Lloyd received £17,588.95 and had made a further application for £1,500 which was not successful.

When HMRC contacted

By Karen Evans

Mr Lloyd, his wife postponed the meeting before confessing to the entire con, said Mr Edwards.

She sent a letter saying she accepted full responsibility for the tax returns and it was without the knowledge of her husband.

Defending Mr Ian Durant said: "She was repaying £68 a week, which has now reduced to £25 a week because her husband has left her since these offences.

"She is a single mum in part time employment at Newbridge Day Nursery."

Her boss June Jones sat at the back of the court is here to support her."

Sentencing Lloyd to 200 hours of unpaid work Judge Peter Barrie said: "You accept that this offending came out of strong financial pressure on your family because of the debts you had and the erratic income that your husband was bringing in."

Plan to demolish town substation



The old sub station at Coney Green in Oswestry.

ENERGY giant Scottish Power is planning to demolish its electrical substation base in Oswestry, including a 19th century building, and replace it with a new one as part of a major modernisation programme.

The firm wants to knock down the Coney Green premises in Oswestry and construct a new 33kV switchroom, 11kV substation and transformer. Plans have been lodged with Shropshire Council and the firm has prepared a design and access statement outlining the proposal.

The site is within Oswestry's conservation area, the statement says, so special consent will have to be given for the work and it adds the project is part of a wider £14 million modernisation and grid reinforcement programme.

The statement says the site includes a disused two-storey building, believed to date from the 19th century. It says that building has remained disused for many years and is in poor condition.

NEWS in brief

Blaze destroys brick garden shed

A brick shed attached to a terraced house in Oswestry was destroyed by fire on Saturday.

The fire started at a house in Victoria Street while the residents were enjoying brunch in the garden. They called the fire service.

Firefighters from Oswestry, Ellesmere and Shrewsbury spent 20 minutes putting out the fire and stayed to damp down the remains of the shed. The fire broke out shortly before 12.30pm. A spokeswoman for Shropshire Fire & Rescue Service said: "We believe it to be an accidental fire. The contents of the lean-to were destroyed."

Pupils planning farmers' market

YOUNGSTERS have been finding out more about the work of farmers after visiting a town's market and talking to stallholders.

Year 5 and 6 children at West Felton Primary School visited Oswestry Farmers' Market, where the market manager David Clough introduced the children to the sellers.

It comes ahead of a planned school farmers' market at West Felton next week.

Teacher Helen Hughes said: "Sycamore Class have been working hard on their latest business initiative, a school farmers' market."

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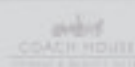
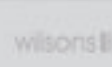
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NEWS
in briefAppeal for tenant
to take over pub

A pub on the Shropshire border which closed at the new year could be back in business by Easter.

The Nags Head at Garthmyl, near Welshpool, has been put up to let with a 15-year lease.

Peter Brunt, from Colliers International Country Pubs and Hotels, said villagers were keen to see the pub back in business.

He said: "It's one of the landmarks on the Newtown to Welshpool section of the Severn Way Walk."

"To get the right people as tenants is important."

A new lease is offered free of any brewery tie, with a starting rent of £30,000pa.

Glam rock night
to fund carnival

A glam rock night is to be held in Welshpool town hall on Saturday, March 29 in aid of entertainment for Welshpool carnival.

Tickets are £6 in advance from Flaunt It and Top Jewellers or Heather Chave on 07779 828943.

There will be prizes for the best costume, and patrons can also enter into the spirit of the event by getting their faces painted glam rock style.

Apart from playing all the top tunes of the era the disco will also be showing videos of the glam rock stars.

Red Arrows confirmed as key act at air show

Welshpool's air show, held in memory of an airport owner who died in a plane crash, will feature a performance from the Red Arrows.

The Bob Jones Memorial Air Show attracts thousands of fans each summer and features a range of displays in the air and on the ground.

Now Robert Robinson, Welshpool Town Council clerk, has confirmed the Red Arrows will make an appearance at

this year's show on June 8.

Mr Robinson said he was delighted with the news and said he hoped this year's air show would provide another boost to the town's economy.

He said: "We are thrilled the air show will welcome the Red Arrows and the show is now regarded as a major event in the calendar."

"Last year's event was a major success and we are hoping this year's will build on that because it brings a major boost to the town."

Bob Jones, 60, was the creator and owner of the Mid Wales Airport, Welshpool. He died when the Piper Navajo plane he was flying with former easyJet pilot Steven Carr, 55, from Ruthin, North Wales, crashed into Long Mountain, Welshpool, on January 18, 2012. Mr Carr also died.

The show is organised by the town council and Mid Wales Airport and this

by Iain St John

year will also feature 12 air flights, plus a parachute display team. The RAF has confirmed that a typhoon and the Battle of Britain Memorial Flights will join the Red Arrows on the bill. There will also be wing walkers among the civilian displays.

The gates open at 9am and the day ends at 5pm. There will be parking on-site and two free buses running from the Tourist Information Centre and entry will be £5.

Meanwhile, Mr Robinson said there is also growing optimism that this year's Welshpool Carnival will recapture its former glory when it is held on May 26.

This is the first year that the town council has taken over the running of the event and this year's theme is Television Soaps. The carnival takes place at Maesydre from 2pm.

New jobs could be on the way at Sidoli's



Investment - Sidoli's Welshpool factory could be creating more jobs in the area

NEW jobs could be on the way at Welshpool's biggest employer as part of a £1 million-plus investment.

Cake, desserts and ice cream maker D Sidoli & Sons has already put more than £5 million into the plant over the past seven years.

Now the company, which counts Costa Coffee owner Whitbread and supermarket giants Tesco, Morrisons and Asda among its customers, is extending its premises on the Hanfaes Lane Industrial Estate. It is not yet known what impact the extension will have on the firm's staff, but it is likely to result in new jobs.

Managing director Paul Richards said the extension would "enable us to enter markets we have been unable to access before. It's a massive addition to what we are doing, it will be huge."

The extension will be built by May, with production beginning by the end of the year. Montgomeryshire MP Glyn Davies toured the factory yesterday.

Welshpool museum wanting souvenirs

MUSEUM staff are looking for foreign souvenirs to display alongside pieces of the Berlin Wall and an opium pipe for new exhibition due to open in the near future.

The exhibits will go on show at Powysland Museum in Welshpool and will include a piece of the Berlin Wall donated by former councillor Colin Davies and his wife Gwen shortly after it had been demolished in 1990.

The museum in Salop Road, which dates back to 1874, usually takes items from around Montgomeryshire, but does also house items from around the world brought in by members of the Powysland Club.

Museum curator Eva Bredsdorff said any items would have to be donated by April 5 ahead of the launch of the exhibition, which runs from April 10 to May 31.

She said: "With the museum's own foreign objects as a starting point we are now planning an exhibition of the many weird and wonderful souvenirs brought back by local people - hoping to show the similarities and differences between the items appealing to late 19th century explorers and modern day's tourists. I'm now appealing for people to lend their souvenirs."

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The British Ironwork Centre in Oswestry Shropshire has been challenged to create a *12 ft Gorilla* statue from old spoons.

Uri Geller famous TV personality and mystifier who opens his gardens to charity, has asked the Ironwork Centre to create a monstrous gorilla sculpture from a mixture of iron & spoons from members of the British public.

Mr Geller has said: "I use the sculptures in my garden to inspire poorly children. I think it helps them to think positively."

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WELSHPOOL

More than 100 at talks on river management

Football treasures are sold



Buyers browse some of the articles on sale.

MEMORABILIA owned by the ex-president of the Welsh Football Association attracted a lot of interest when it went under the hammer.

Hundreds of items owned by Tegwyn Evans were auctioned at Welshpool Town Hall including a signed Manchester United football

and a number 11 shirt worn by Ryan Giggs.

Mr Evans, who died last year aged 85, was a life vice-president of the Welsh FA, president of Welshpool Town FC, chairman of Central Wales FA and president of Montgomeryshire AFL.

by Iain St John

MORE than 100 people attended talks in Welshpool to discuss the future management of the River Severn and its tributaries, including ways to tackle flooding.

The talks were staged by the Severn Uplands Partnership and saw residents, anglers, farmers and representatives from various charities and authorities discuss the Severn Uplands catchment area.

The catchment includes the River Severn from its source in the Cambrian Mountains to Shrewsbury and nearly all its tributaries. The main part of the event, staged at Welshpool Livestock Market was a round table discussion about the priorities for the river catchment and how people can work together to improve it.

The event was hosted by the Severn Rivers Trust with support from Natural Resources Wales, Environment Agency, Canal and Rivers Trust and the Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust.

Tony Bostock, chief executive for the Severn Rivers Trust who organised the event, said: "The turnout has been overwhelming. It goes to show how many people care about our rivers and want to see them improved."

"We have a lot of issues on our rivers, such as flooding and loss of wildlife but so many possible solutions, especially when we work together."

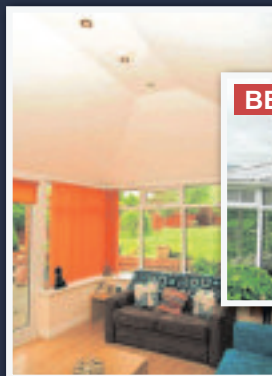
"This workshop has given a large number of people the opportunity to have their say."

Issues raised will feed back into the Severn Basin Management Plan which is being drafted by Natural Resources Wales and the Environment Agency, but will allow the partnership to work with other organisations and interested individuals.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

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Gardens re-open

3rd April: 'Curry in the Courtyard':

Gourmet Asian inspired cuisine at the Potting Shed Café (Reservations Only)

18th April: Childrens Easter Egg Trail

21st April: NGS Open Day

26-27th April: Marie Curie Open Day

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NEWS
in brief

Poppies to mark war anniversary

A poppy ring of remembrance will be planted in a village to mark the beginning of the First World War 100 years ago.

The poppies will be planted on a roundabout near the centre of Gobowen.

The feature is being planned by Selattyn and Gobowen Parish Council and volunteers are needed to help.

Parish clerk Penny O'Hagan said 600 poppy seeds would be planted as well as 800 begonia seeds.

At the parish council meeting on Wednesday, Councillor David Lloyd commended the clerk's work on the project.

Film screening at hall in village

TREFONEN Village Hall will be showing acclaimed film Philomena (12A) on Saturday.

Starring Judi Dench, the film is the heartfelt story of an Irish woman searching for the son she was made to give away after being forced into a convent. Philomena (Dench) is introduced to Martin (Steve Coogan), a one-time Government spokesman and journalist, who agrees to help her look for her son.

Tickets are £4 for adults and £2.50 for children. Refreshments will be available as well as a licensed bar. Call (01691) 657011.

Farming entrepreneurs can apply for cash funds

YOUNG farming entrepreneurs in Wales looking to set up on their own for the first time could be able to claim a grant of up to £15,000 through an innovative support scheme.

Alun Davies, the Welsh Assembly's Minister for Natural Resources and Food, has approved funding

by Iain St John

of almost £1.8 million to extend the Young Entrants Support Scheme (YESS) to support young farmers in Wales for another year.

Since the scheme began in 2010 it has helped over 520 young people enter the farming industry, providing grants totalling £7.1 million.

The extension of the scheme has been welcomed by Oswestry-based firm Davis Meade Property Consultants.

To apply for support, farmers must be based in Wales, be under the age of 40 and must either be setting up as head of the holding for the first time, or have set-up as head of holding within the previous 12 months.

Philip Meade of Davis Meade Property Consultants said the scheme was extremely timely.

He said: "With a proposed review of the county council

farms estate in Wales also under way, this is an excellent step forward in ensuring that there are good opportunities for the next generation of farmers.

"Anyone interested in applying should bear in mind that if any of the farmland they are applying with includes rented or tenanted land, make sure they have it for at least five years and check for break clauses as a key requisite of the scheme is that applicants must have the land available for five years.

"This is an extremely valuable scheme offering a welcome input of capital onto farms and we want to see as many people as possible in a position to benefit from the funding."

Young farmers can express interest in the scheme now and applications will be accepted from September 1 until November 30.

Sun shines down on crocus walk



Stuart Phillips, Mr and Mrs Chris Schofield and Stephen Thomas with pupils

THE sun shone on youngsters as they took part in a Rotary club's annual sponsored crocus walk.

Pupils from Oswestry School's Bellan House and Prepcare nursery set off on the sponsored walk to raise funds for the Rotary Club's End Polio Now project.

Along with staff, pupils from Reception to Year 2, together with under fours from the nursery, completed a full four hour circuits of Cae Glas Park in Oswestry.

Sue Edwards, head of Bellan House KS1, said: "The children were very enthusiastic about spending time in the sunshine.

"The walk took the children past the beautiful crocuses that had been planted by Bellan pupils in 2010.

"While they were completing their circuits of the park many of them commented on the crocuses in bloom. They were very lucky to be supporting such a worthwhile cause in such an enjoyable way."

Work on towpath 'vital for tourism'

A £220,000 makeover of the Llangollen Canal's towpath will ensure the waterway on the Shropshire border will continue to draw visitors from around the world, project bosses say.

The works include widening and resurfacing the towpath along the World Heritage Site between Horseshoe Waterfalls and Pontcysyllte Aqueduct, adding to the 16km of towpath that has already been improved.

Glandwr Cymru, the Canal & River Trust in Wales, has started the repair of 1,500 metres of towpath along the canal so that the route can continue to be enjoyed by visitors throughout the year.

The work is part of plans to make it easier for walkers, boaters, cyclists and traditional horse-drawn boats to use the canal.

The towpath will be closed throughout the works, which are expected to take approximately six weeks to complete.

Jim Forrester, chairman of the Canal & River Trust's North Wales & Borders Partnership, said: "The Llangollen Canal is one of the most visited canals in Britain and these improvements are vital because of the high number of visitors who use the towpath every day."

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Bodytech Health Clubs are bucking the trend of the standard women's exercise circuit by offering a unique ladies only experience.

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Jeff Anderson, Bodytech Managing Director said "We feel that when you use a standard 30 minute work out circuit, it is very hard to see any further results after the first couple of months, this is because your body has adapted to cope with the exercise.

Our circuit allows progression with no limits, meaning you will carry on seeing results every time you intensify your work out."

As Bodytech is not solely a Ladies only gym there is of course other major benefit for women using club.

Females who want to progress their workout even further can use the mixed gym on the upper floor which offers a huge range of weights and cardio equipment.

Whereas those who like to exercise in a group can take advantage of one of Bodytech's many classes, including Spin Bikes, Aerobics and Body Conditioning.

If you would like any further information or to book a free taster session at Bodytech call the club on 01691 657400.



	Time	Class
MON	10 - 11	Beginners Spin
	11 - 12	Circuits
	6:15 - 7	Bodytech Pump
	7 - 8	Spin
TUE	10 - 11	Body Conditioning
	11 - 12	Bodytech Pump
	6 - 7	Beginners Spin
	7 - 8	Spin
	8 - 9	Pilates
WED	11 - 12	Aerobics
	6 - 7	Spin
	7 - 8	Plan 2 Slim
THU	11 - 12	Pilates
	6 - 7	Body Conditioning
	7 - 8	Spin
FRI	10 - 11	Boxercise
	12:15-12:45	Abs Blast
	6 - 7	Spin
SAT	10 - 11	Spin

Class Timetable

Pay as you go classes - £5

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Bodytech, Salop Rd, Oswestry, SY11 2NR - 01691 657400

Fun day on cards at show in village

THE organisers of Llanfechain Show are promising a fun day out for all the family as performers are booked and competitions announced.

The village show, which will be held on August bank holiday Monday, will include performances by renowned theatre group Kaleidoscope and, following his success last year, the crowd-pleasing Simon Airey and his cute and creepy animals.

Craft, art and photography competitions have been announced this week to give competitors a head start.

Under 16s will be able to enter their own art and photography classes, and there will be open competitions for art, photography, craft and woodcraft.

A new cup this year is for the best exhibit in the local senior citizens' horticulture classes, and is given in memory of Mr and Mrs R. Vaughan.

Gardeners will also be showing off their home-grown delights, with an unusual category for the most weight on a potato plant in a three gallon bucket.

For more information phone June Row on (01691) 828077, Elizabeth Yorke on (01691) 828614 or visit www.llanfechain-show.co.uk

Concerns remain over village pub homes bid

PARISH councillors say they remain unhappy with plans to build houses near a village pub.

An initial bid to build homes at the Old Three Pigeons at Nesscliffe was refused by Shropshire Councillors last year, contrary to the advice given by their own planning officers.

Revised plans have now been lodged with Shropshire Council which would see the building of two houses, the formation of a new rear car park and a reconfigured beer garden at the pub.

But members of Great Ness and Little Ness Parish Council have lodged objections to the revised plans.

According to a design and access statement lodged on behalf of the applicant Mrs S Brooks, the revised plans take into account design concerns raised when the first application was considered by councillors.

The statement says the key difference in the revised application is the proposed access way to the two housing and a revised pub car park.

It says: "The proposed car park would provide an increase of two spaces to the pub, and the dwellings would include a further, more private access way that does not pass through the main body of that car park."

And it adds: "The propos-

als involve the erection of two four-bedroom dwellings with integral garages on land to the rear of the Old Three Pigeons public house.

"The proposals also include the provision of a replacement (and increased capacity) car park for the retained public house with associated retaining walls."

However the revised plans have not won favour with the parish council.

The council has been consulted on the plans and in a submission to Shropshire Council says: "The parish council consider the proposed alterations to access and the car park do not address the problem of reduced parking for patrons."

"The risk of overflow parking on Holyhead Road and the surrounding area remains a concern."

Shropshire Council hopes to make a decision on the homes by March 27.

Lorries drive residents out of their beds



Melissa Wright, Andrea Twigg and Councillor Terry Evans take a look at the damage to the road.

NOISE from factory lorries passing along potholed roads are driving neighbouring residents to distraction – and forcing some to move into their back bedrooms for a quieter life.

They say the sheer volume of lorries travelling in and out of the Kronospan factory in Chirk is the main cause of the dreadful state of the Holyhead Road.

Residents are calling on both Wrexham County Borough Council and the Welsh Assembly to provide the money needed to resurface the carriageway. Chirk councillors Ian Roberts and Terry Evans said they had been unable to get any assurances about the road.

"The surface has deteriorated and at the moment it's not only damage to

road users but causes noise pollution to residents living in the area," Councillor Roberts said. Councillor Evans said he almost came a cropper when he was on his bike. "You don't see the potholes until you are virtually upon them," he said.

Mrs Andrea Twigg said she had had to move her bedroom from the front to the back of her house because of noise.

NEWS in brief

Cast tuning up for Mikado show

REHEARSALS are under way for Llangollen Operatic Society's production of Gilbert and Sullivan's The Mikado.

A talented cast includes newcomer David Bartlett as Nanki Poo and Helen Belton as his beloved Yum Yum. Yum Yum's sisters are played by Jo Potts and Karen Davies.

Another new member joining the cast of The Mikado, which will run at Llangollen Town Hall from May 14 to 17, is 18-year-old Kieran Davies from Shotton. Kieran has performed with the Welsh National Opera and is hoping to get a place at a specialist college.

Pigs are subject of society's talk

NORTH Shropshire & Borders Smallholders Group will be having a talk about pigs during its meeting this month.

Mr and Mrs Stebbings from the Pedigree Welsh Pig Society will be talking about the fascinating animal at Llanyblodwell & Porthywaen Hall at 7.30pm on March 26.

The meeting is open to all. Admission is £3 for visitors, which includes refreshments.

For more information please ring Phil and Ann on 01691 656516 or visit www.northshrop-smallholder.co.uk

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NEWS
in briefHospitals will be
hosting tea parties

HOSPITALS across Powys will be hosting tea parties today (Thursday) as part of Nutrition and Hydration Week.

The events, which are for patients, will be raising awareness of how important it is to our health to eat well and drink plenty of fluids.

Staff will be involving all patients in the event and helping them to meet their own nutritional needs once they leave hospital.

Staff nurse Lise Chesters, who is behind the events, said: "By eating well people can improve their health and reduce the likelihood that they will need to go to hospital."

Mediums set to
hold hall event

MEDIUMS and clairvoyants will be available for readings during a week-end-long event in Oswestry it has been announced this week.

The Mind Body & Spirit Experience will take place at Oswestry Memorial Hall on March 29 and 30.

People will be able to try out holistic therapy or view the colour of their aura during the event, as well as buy jewellery, products and gifts.

Admission will be free and there will be a raffle provided by Hope House Children's Hospice.

Broadband cash 'can't come from council budget'

COUNCIL bosses have said they need to find other ways to unlock more than £11 million of government funding for rural broadband.

Shropshire Council leader Keith Barrow said there is "no way on earth" the authority would be able to take money out of general funds to access cash given its current financial situation.

by Iain St John

The Government has offered to provide £11.38 million of cash through the Superfast Extension Programme to widen broadband provision in the county – but only on the basis the money is match-funded by the council.

At Wednesday's cabinet meeting Roger Evans, leader of the Liberal Democrat group, said he hoped the council would be attempting to access all of the available funding.

He asked for a commitment for council leaders that the county would be getting the full amount of potential funding.

Councillor Barrow said efforts are being made to secure the funding but added money could not be taken out of the council's general budget at a time when £80 million cuts are taking place over the next three years.

"The money is there but it has to be match-funded,"

he said. "The situation we find ourselves in with £80 million to find in the next three years means there is no way on earth we are going to be able to manage £11.4 million to match fund that within the council.

"We are looking at other ways."

A new partnership between campaigners and council leaders has been set up to try and find ways to unlock the funding.

Shropshire Council will work with the Shropshire and Marches Campaign for Better Broadband in an attempt to find the match-funding that will allow the county to access the Government cash.

The money is in addition to the £26 million Connecting Shropshire programme, which is aiming to connect 93 per cent of the county to fast broadband.

Wendy's pet crowned top dog at Crufts



Wendy Tobijanski was thrilled that her csky terrier became a Crufts champion

A "diva" dog from Oswestry has proved she deserves the spotlight after walking away with a top prize at Crufts.

Ceska, an eight-year-old csky terrier, was one of more than 21,500 dogs to enter the world's biggest dog show at the NEC in Birmingham last weekend.

And Ceska's owner Wendy Tobijanski was left beaming with pride after her pet claimed a prestigious Best of Breed award, presented by the Kennel Club.

Wendy and Ceska fought off competition from a number of other csky terriers to scoop the coveted prize at the annual competition.

The 46-year-old said she was delighted to have taken the top prize.

"It's just amazing. I'm absolutely speechless. I did not expect it and you can't expect to win," she said.

Wendy said Ceska had been proving her star quality since she was a puppy. "csky Terriers are fabulous and Ceska is a bit of a diva," she said.

Exercise class is boosting aid funds

ZUMBA enthusiasts – or those who fancy trying the fitness craze – can join in an afternoon of activity and raise funds for Sport Relief at the same time.

A Zumba Disco for Sport Relief will be held at the Corbet School in Baschurch on Saturday.

The disco will run from 2pm to 4pm and will be presented by Zumba specialist Kate Vaughan.

Guest instructors Annette Harding, Sue Mandy Lou Lewis, and the businesses Zumba with Amanda/Jayne and Ali will also feature.

Amanda Arnold, one of the organisers of the event, said: "There will be a variety of different types of zumba and plenty of scope to get involved as little or as much as you want."

"Beginners are also welcome."

"Last year we held a zumba disco at the Corbet School to raise money for the Bone Cancer Unit at the orthopaedic hospital near Oswestry."

"We had over 100 people attend and I think everyone had a great time. We hope as many people will come again this year."

Tickets for the event are £5 and are available from Amanda on (01939) 261039 or 07535 706337 or contact the Albrighton Hall Spa.

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NEWS
in briefGearing up for
return of races

PREPARATIONS are in full swing for next month's Eyton Races, which will be held for the 91st time.

Thousands of people are expected at the amateur steeple chasing event on Easter Monday, April 21, as the North Shropshire Hunt Point-to-Point at Eyton-on-Severn, Wroxeter, near Shrewsbury.

There will be seven races on the track, in addition to a fun fair, licensed bar, bookmakers and stalls selling country clothing, equine accessories, garden furniture and food.

The gate will open at 11am, with the first race at 2pm and the last at 5.40pm. Car parking free.

Handbag taken
from a church

PEOPLE have been asked to keep an eye open for a handbag stolen from a church in Oswestry.

It was taken from Cornerstone Baptist Church in Roft Street, during a meeting on Tuesday at about 8pm. It had been left on a chair near to the back door and it is thought the thief came in and took it.

It is dark brown leather with hand straps and a shoulder strap and contained several address books which the owner is keen to recover. Anyone finding the bag or with information can call police in Oswestry on 101.

Council leader defends £190,000 consultant cost

SHROPSHIRE Council has "nothing to be ashamed of" in spending £190,000 over two years on a consultant who will help deliver £80 million cuts, the authority's leader has insisted.

Keith Barrow told a meeting of Shropshire Council's cabinet that Bright Lake Consulting has already helped identify £20 million of savings.

The contractor has been working with the council since October, and under a new contract officially approved by cabinet yesterday will now work with the authority's programme management office and the business design team to create one business unit within the council's company IP&E.

The contract will run for an initial two years, costing £95,000 a year, with an option to extend it by a further two years.

Opposition leaders from the Labour and Liberal Democrat parties questioned why the consultant had been hired when the council already has highly-paid senior managers.

But Councillor Barrow said the consultant was helping to train staff to redesign services and claimed workers were "delighted

by Iain St John

with the appointment. He said details of the consultant's salary were originally due to be kept private, but he had insisted they were made public.

"We have nothing to be ashamed of. We have saved £5 million to £6 million in senior management costs in the last year or so," he said.

Councillor Alan Mosley, leader of the Labour group, said he accepted the principle of using consultants for short-term projects but was concerned about the length of this contract.

"It is a very long period. It seems a kick in the teeth for senior staff that they are not felt to be capable of doing this work," he said.

But Councillor Barrow said this was not the case.

"It is not a kick in the teeth, it is a shot in the arm," he said. "Our staff are absolutely delighted they are being upskilled."

Thousands attend college open day



Honor Jones, aged 11, from Stourbridge with a lamb at the Spring Lambing Day

THOUSANDS of people attended a Spring Lambing Day at Walford & North Shropshire College near Baschurch on Sunday.

Lucy Evans, from the college, said: "It was an absolutely glorious day, the weather was beautiful and we had more than 3,000 people which is a record so we are thrilled."

"The place was absolutely packed and some people saw six lambs being born and also a calf. And the weather was a great bonus."

Ms Evans said there was plenty for people to see and do at the event, with an army assault course, a dog show and a look at an RAF helicopter all on offer.

She said: "We really had all sorts to keep the crowd entertained. We had a new robot machine milking cows so people could see the latest milking technology and we also had an assault course, an RAF Shawbury helicopter and the Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service also came along."

Overseas journey in store for researcher

A researcher will travel to New Zealand after winning a prestigious fellowship award.

Dr Sharon Owen, who is based at the Centre for Spinal Studies at Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital, has been awarded a Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowship.

The trust, established in 1965 in memory of Sir Winston Churchill, carries forward his legacy by funding British citizens from all walks of life to travel overseas, to bring back knowledge and best practice for the benefit of others in their UK professions and communities.

Dr Owen, a post-doctoral research graduate, will travel to New Zealand to research degeneration of the human spine, and the use of imaging technology of the vertebral endplate.

She said: "The Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowship has provided me with a wonderful opportunity to immerse myself in the work that the New Zealand research team carry out."

"It is my intention to bring their imaging techniques back to the UK and apply it to other musculoskeletal tissues, especially in those following cell therapy or biological repair treatment."

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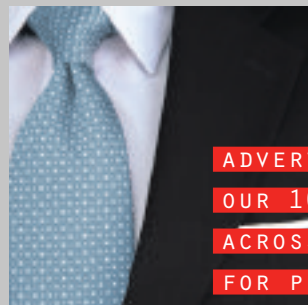
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Progressive school has a new head

Advertising feature

HOLY Trinity Church of England Primary School has welcomed a new headteacher.

Mrs Pam Edwards who took up her position at the school in January 2014, bringing with her a wealth of experience in the field of education both as a teacher, headteacher and as a school adviser. She will lead a committed and dedicated staff.

Holy Trinity has a nursery which is an integral part of the school and is run by qualified teachers and two NNEB trained teaching assistants offering 15 free hours for all children from age three. Paid top up sessions are available places permitting. Enquiries should be made to the school office.

The school is proud of its dedicated rooms for music, cookery, design and technology. There is also a very well stocked library, with both fiction and non-fiction.

Holy Trinity Church of England Primary maintains close links with Holy Trinity Church and the Diocese of Lichfield. The children attend church for all the main festivals and regular assemblies are taken by Reverend Paul Darlington.

The school is multicultural and children of all religions are welcome and respected. Having been recently refurbished the school has spacious playing fields and playgrounds.

The outside spaces benefit from trim trails and climbing frames in all Key Stages and two large goalposts enable the older children to play a variety of ball sports, including football, netball and cricket and were partly funded by the National Lottery and the school's own fundraising.

Half term bingo sessions are very popular with our families and the local community and are always well supported, as is our annual summer fair. Anyone wishing to help with any event held at the school will be most welcome.

Holy Trinity School is pleased to support community events, such as Oswestry in Bloom



Pupils enjoying lunchtime ball skills.



Pam Edwards, the new headteacher.



Staff and pupils dressed up for Polish Day.



Spot The Dog visited the school.

and has been regular winners of the Best Kept School, Outstanding Work by Children and Young People and Wildlife Area categories.

The school provides a varied curriculum and tries to expose the children to a wide range of experiences. Excursions take place on a regular basis and include trips to places such as Symphony Hall in Birmingham, the Theatre and Pantomime. Educational visitors such as the Animal Man, Police and Fire Service also come into school.

There is a great emphasis on music and sport

at the school. Lessons are available for piano, violin, cello, drums and percussion. Our pupils have been successful in many areas of the annual Youth Music Festival. After school clubs are many and varied including karate, football, fencing, golf, cookery, science and pet protectors. The children also have a keen interest in athletics as part of Oswestry Olympians and take part in local events.

Swimming lessons for the Key Stage 2 children are taught at Oswestry Leisure Centre during the Autumn and Spring Terms.

One of our more unusual clubs is Mandarin Chinese which is proving to be popular.

TNS Football Club come into school every lunchtime to teach the children football skills as well as running an after school football club and teaching ball skills during the school day. The school has close links with TNS Football Club and the children regularly attend matches at the Park Hall ground.

Fundraising events for both school and charities are a regular occurrence. Holy Trinity School has recently been given a defibrillator

by the charity SADS UK as a result of some of this fundraising.

You can be assured that your child will receive a wide and varied education at Holy Trinity C of E Primary School in an extremely caring and nurturing environment.

Holy Trinity Church of England Primary is situated at Middleton Road, Oswestry, SY11 2LF.

To contact the school call : 01691 654832 or 01691 652810 or fax 01691 688913.



HOLY TRINITY CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

MIDDLETON ROAD, OSWESTRY, SHROPSHIRE SY11 2LF

Headteacher: Mrs Pam Edwards



‘The aim of education is the knowledge, not of facts, but of values’

- William Ralph Inge

Holy Trinity C of E Primary School

01691 654832

www.holytrinity.shropshire.sch.uk

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Lions Club
6th
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LIONFEST

Lions preparing for annual beer festival



Clive Humphries getting ready for the Lionfest.

**MEMBERS of the Lions Club
of Oswestry are getting ready
to host their sixth real ale festival
at the town's memorial
hall.**

Lionfest will run over the week-
end of April 4 to 6 and more than
25 casks of real ale will be on offer,
all supplied by local breweries.

The list includes Oswestry's Stone-
house brewery which is again playing
a major role in sourcing the beers,

Advertisement feature

providing specialist equipment and
supporting the event.

In addition to real ales, cider, wine
and soft drinks along with food will
also be available.

Spokesman Clive Humphries said:
"The festival is in its sixth year and it
is getting better known and more
and more people are turning up."

"We plan again to have around 25
casks of sensational real ale, all sup-
plied by local breweries."

"We have also had help and support
from the Shropshire branch of Cam-
paign for Real Ale."

The price of entry remains at £7 for
the day, entitling the ticket holder to
four half pints, and a 2014 commem-
orative glass tankard.

Programmes can be purchased giv-
ing details and tasting notes of all the
ales.

Every penny of profit arising from
the real ale festival will contribute to-
wards helping with the work's chari-
table work.



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Property

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO HOME BUYING AND LETTING



Quirky Victorian home in an acre of grounds

South Lodge, Park Hall, near Oswestry, is a striking four-bedroom detached house set in an acre of beautiful grounds.

Dating from 1889, the property is for sale with Woodhead Estates at £329,950. The living room has a fireplace and exposed floorboards while the sitting room has a multi-fuel burner, slate flooring and exposed

beams. Bedroom three has a decorative fireplace, and there is a downstairs shower room with four-piece suite. The conservatory has automatic turbo ventilation while the kitchen has an electric oven with a four point gas hob and extractor fan over and wood-effect flooring, and the dining area has a feature multi fuel burner. There is also an inner hall.

The master bedroom has a door out to the rear garden. There is also a further ground floor bedroom and bathroom including a P-shaped bath. Upstairs are three attic rooms and en-suite bedroom four. The property has extensive gardens, off road parking and a range of stores. Call Woodhead Estates on 01691 680044 to arrange a viewing.



Extended terraced house has far-reaching country views

Number 2 Waterloo Fields, Forden, near Welshpool, is a spacious terraced home which has recently been improved and extended. The three-storey accommodation includes a loft conversion with superb views over open countryside towards Corn-don Hill. On the ground floor is a comfortable lounge leading to a refitted kitchen/dining room which features high quality oak fronted units and integral appliances. On the first floor are two bedrooms and a refitted family bathroom.

There are low maintenance gardens to front and rear, and private parking for two cars. Halls have set a guide price of £147,500. Call 01938 555552 to view.



Well-presented family semi benefits from large garden

A well maintained semi-detached house on a large plot in a quiet position a short distance from Oswestry and Whittington is on the market with JJ Dell.

Number 23 Drenwydd, Park Hall, is well presented and includes gas fired central heating and upvc double glazing.

The accommodation comprises an entrance porch, reception hall, dining kitchen, sitting room, sun room, two bedrooms, bathroom, ample parking, detached garage and a large attractive rear garden.

The property is priced at £139,500. Call JJ Dell on 01691 653437 or visit the web-site www.jjdell.co.uk for more details.

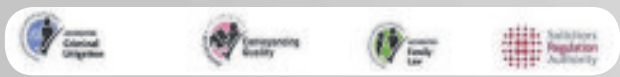
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Cefn coch, Llanrhaeadr YM
Price: £399,950

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OC3870

Applewood Heights, West Felton
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OC3875

Moors Lane, St Martins
Price: £189,950

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Upper Church Street, Oswestry
Price: £169,950

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OC3862

Wootton Cottages, Queenshead
Price: £285,000

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OC3517

Smithy House, Penybont
Price: £239,950

Contact Oswestry



**The Old Barn
Nr Maesbrook**
This superbly presented converted threshing barn overlooks its own Equestrian Haven and is located conveniently for hacking routes. Sympathetically converted and restored and now provides stunning characterful accommodation which complements the contemporary interiors. Current EPC Rating D.

Price: £763,000

Contact Oswestry

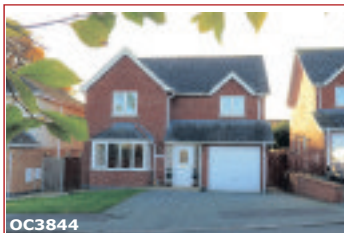
OC3878



OC3874

Colliery Road, St Martins
Price: £249,950

Contact Oswestry



OC3844

Long Croft, Weston Rhyn
Price: Offers over £195,000

Contact Oswestry



OC3851

Hampton Close, Oswestry
Price: £249,950

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OC3872

Cliffe Point, Pant
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OC3783

Lime Grove, Oswestry
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OC3865

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Maes Y Foel, Llansantffraid
Price: £168,000

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OC3856

Vine Cottages, Weston Rhyn
Price: £135,000

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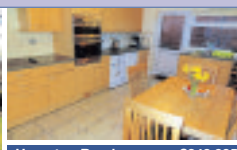
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NEW

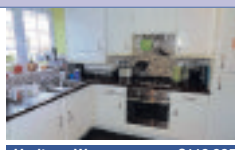
Hampton Road
Oswestry

£243,995

- A well presented 3 Bedroom Link Detached Bungalow
- The property has been extended by the current owner
- Ent Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Utility
- Master Bed with adjoining WC, 2 further Beds & Family Bathroom
- Good size rear garden, single garage and 2 driveways
- Double glazing and gas central heating. EPC Rating



NEW

Heritage Way
Llanymynech

£119,995

- An excellent 2 Bedroom End Terrace Property on a corner plot
- Entrance Hall, Kitchen, Cloakroom, Lounge
- Conservatory, 2 Bedrooms and Bathroom
- Good size private rear garden with patio and garden shed
- 2 designated parking spaces and vegetable garden
- uPVC double glazing and propane Gas C/H. EPC Rating



NEW

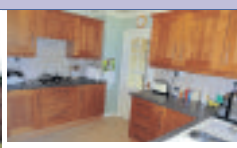
Elgar Close
Oswestry

£119,995

- Well maintained 2 Bedroom Semi-Detached Bungalow
- Entrance Hall, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Lounge
- Inner Hallway, 2 Bedrooms and Bathroom
- Tarmac driveway and carport providing ample off-road parking
- Rear terraced seating areas enjoying view across the garden
- Excellent rear garden with superb views across the town
- Double glazing and gas central heating. EPC Rating



NEW

Springfield Gardens
West Felton

£215,000

- 2 Bedroom Detached Bungalow in a Popular Village Location
- Ent Hall, Lounge, Dining Rm, Recently Fitted Kitchen, Conservatory
- Recently Fitted Bathroom, 2 Beds, Large Drive, Single Garage, WC
- UPVC D/G, Fascias and Soffits Oil C/H. EPC Rating D



NEW - NO CHAIN

Poplar Close
St Martins

£154,995

- Deceptively spacious 3 Bedroom Detached Family Home
- Lounge, Kitchen/Dining Room, Conservatory
- Master Bedroom (en-suite), 2 further Bedrooms & Family Bathroom
- To the rear the property has a private garden
- Large driveway providing off-road parking and single garage
- Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing. EPC Rating D



NEW

St Martins Rd
Gobowen

£40,000

- A commercial property extending to approx 350 sq. ft. (32 sq. m.)
- The property could be used for a host of future uses
- (subject to any necessary planning consents)
- Main Shop, Office, Kitchenette and Cloakroom.
- The property is situated with a cul-de-sac location
- Close to the main line railway station and shops

27th March Property Auction

2.00pm

@ the Lion Quays
Hotel, Moreton
Oswestry



LOT 1 AUCTION

Worthenbury Guide Price Over £150,000 WREXHAM

- Semi Detached Cottage.
- Scope for modernisation
- Sought after village location.
- Double garage.
- Established gardens and parking.
- EPC Rating G
- Contact Wrexham Office



LOT 2 AUCTION

Elson Road Guide Price Over £225,000 ELLESMERE

- Detached 3 bedroom property.
- Requires scheme of modernisation and improvement works
- Integral garage, off road parking
- Large gardens to front and rear.
- EPC Rating - Band E
- Contact Ellesmere Office



LOT 3 AUCTION

Overton Guide Price Over £150,000 WREXHAM

- 5 Bedroom family home.
- In need of modernisation and improvement works.
- uPVC double glazing & Gas fired C/H.
- Popular village location.
- EPC Rating - D
- Contact Ellesmere Office



Property With Land



Glyn Ceiriog

£250,000

- Situated in an enviable elevated rural location
- Refurbished semi-detached property is finished to a high specification
- Paddock (approx 2.3 acres) additional gardens & wooded copse
- Open Plan Living Room, Conservatory with balconies & Snug
- Large bedroom, bathroom, walk-in wardrobe, shower
- Boiler room, workshop, carport and storage/stabling.
- Oil fired central heating, EPC Rating 'D'.



LOT 4 AUCTION

Pant Guide Price Over £270,000 OSWESTRY

- 4 Bedroom Split Level Detached
- Views across Shropshire Plain
- Lounge, Dining Room, Balcony
- Kitchen, Utility, Conservatory
- Master Bedroom (En-Suite)
- EPC Rating D
- Contact Oswestry Office



LOT 5 AUCTION

Hope Guide Price Over £150,000 WREXHAM

- Generous Grounds
- Detached Bungalow
- Popular Location
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- EPC Rating E
- Contact Wrexham Office



LOT 6 AUCTION

Hightown Guide Price Over £60,000 WREXHAM

- Three Bedroom Property
- Two Reception Rooms
- Forecourt and rear garden
- Scope for modernisation and improvement
- EPC Rating F
- Contact Wrexham office



LOT 7 AUCTION

Church St Guide Price Over £150,000 OSWESTRY

- 3 Bedroom Detached Family Home
- Adjoining Annex & Double Garage
- Large Plot Extending to around 0.52 acre
- Potential Development opportunity
- EPC Rating F
- Contact Oswestry Office



NEW PRICE

Berlan Close
Weston Rhyn

£199,995

- Superbly appointed Detached Family House
- Situated within walking distance of the centre of Weston Rhyn
- Entrance Hall, Living Room, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility, Cloakroom
- 4 Excellent Bedrooms and a Family Bathroom.
- Oil fired C/H, uPVC D/G & spacious gardens. EPC Rating D



LOT 8 AUCTION

Aberoer Guide Price Over £200,000 WREXHAM

- Providing tremendous scope for extension and refurbishment into an exceptional and large family home
- Sought after rural surroundings
- Grounds extending to approx 0.96ac
- EPC Rating G
- Contact Wrexham office



LOT 9 AUCTION

Ruabon Guide Price Over £40,000 WREXHAM

- Mid terrace dwelling subject to occupation under a Regulated Tenancy
- Living Room & Kitchen to the ground floor with Three Bedrooms and Bathroom at first floor level.
- EPC Rating D
- Contact Wrexham Office



LOT 10 AUCTION

Ruabon Guide Price Over £40,000 WREXHAM

- End terrace dwelling subject to occupation under a Regulated Tenancy
- Living Room & Kitchen to the ground floor with Three Bedrooms and Bathroom at first floor level.
- EPC Rating D
- Contact Wrexham Office



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Oak Drive
Oswestry

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- Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Utility, Cloakroom
- 4 Beds, En-Suite, Family Bathroom
- Ample Off-Road Parking, Enclosed Rear Garden
- Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, EPC Rating C

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Independent agents mark 10th birthday

OSWESTRY agents Woodhead estates are proud to announce that for the seventh consecutive year they are the town's only member of the prestigious Guild of Professional Estate Agents, ensuring the highest standards, code of conduct and levels of service.

The agency, which this year celebrates its 10th birthday, is independently and privately owned by Kate Howell (nee Woodhead), who said: "Our customers can be assured that their properties are presented and showcased to their full potential."

"We are a modern, market leading estate agent which offers a national coverage via a network of 752 offices countrywide - we never forget our roots and are proud to offer expert, local knowledge."

"With the opening last April of the Principality Building Society, we are now a 'one-stop shop' and we would only recommend a service that we ourselves would use. Most of our work comes from recommendations, with many customers and different generations of the same family coming back to us."

"The start of 2014 has shown increased confidence in the local market, and we have in recent weeks sold several properties in less than 24 hours."

Kate added: "Valuations are all conducted by myself, giving honest recommendations, and we will market the property for a price which will ensure that it's given the best opportunity of being sold in the quickest time scale, while always remembering the vendor is the boss."

"All staff are trained to professional Guild standard and in recent months Woodhead Estates have expanded their team and welcomed Holly Wrisdale to the lettings division. Holly compliments the team which consists of lettings specialist Glenys Pritchard and negotiators Fran Pryce, Dan



Woodhead Estates and the Principality Building Society offer a one-stop shop.

Graham and Principality senior customer consultant Harriet Fallon.

"In a competitive market, Woodhead Estates strive to offer value for money while still ensuring professional service."

"In our 10th year we are proud to support several charities and events. These include the fantastic work of Marie Curie and the successful musical events organised by Enid Thomas."

"We also support the Oswestry & Border Chronicle 'Keeping Oswestry Alive' campaign to fund lifesaving defibrillators and

are a proud sponsor of Whittington International Chamber Music Festival."

"At Woodhead Estates and Principality we pride ourselves on being able to deliver an extensive range of products which include mortgages, savings, ISAs, bonds, children's accounts, insurance and estate planning at a central location for our customers."

Kate concluded: "For a free market appraisal and professional advice please call 01691 680044 or go online to our website www.woodheadestates.com"



Delightful country home set in three acres of land

WOODHEAD Estates are marketing a charming three-bedroom detached house in a lovely rural location.

Oakfields Farm at Dudleston Heath, near Ellesmere, includes about three acres of land, a two-bay Dutch barn, wood store, workshop, two reception rooms, double glazing, garage and enclosed gardens.

The land is split into one acre of planted woodland and two acres of pasture fields. Both fields have hedging to boundaries.

Viewings are highly recommended to appreciate this property, which is priced at £389,950.

Contact the agents on 01691 680044 or log on to www.woodheadestates.com to find out more.



**PRINCIPALITY
BUILDING SOCIETY
LOCAL AGENCY**

We're here to help Oswestry get moving

- Remortgaging
- First Time Buyers
- Moving home
- Buy To Let

Pop in to your local Principality agency to make an appointment

With a range of mortgages, whether it's your first home, you're moving up the property ladder, or buying to let, speaking to a Principality Mortgage Consultant could really make it happen.



You can find us at Woodhead Estates, 12a Leg Street, Oswestry



Call us on **01691 680044**
(Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm and Saturday 9am – 12pm)

Closer to our communities

YOUR HOME MAY BE REPOSSESSED IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON YOUR MORTGAGE

Woodhead Estates are an introducer appointed representative for Principality Building Society. Principality Building Society is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority, reference number 155998. Many Buy To Let mortgages will not be regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority. Principality Building Society, Principality Buildings, Queen Street, Cardiff, CF10 1UA. www.principality.co.uk

OMPAD 12/13-1

Oswestry's Recommended Agent for the
Guild of Professional Estate Agents



WOODHEAD ESTATES

www.woodheadstates.com

T: 01691 680044 E: sales@woodheadstates.com

NEW

Ellesmere Oak Fields Farm Dudleston Heath
3 BED DET HOUSE
APPROXIMATELY 3 ACRES
DOUBLE GLAZING
EPC RATING E
OIRO £389,950

NEW

Oswestry South Lodge Park Hall
4 BED DET HOUSE
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
EXTENSIVE GARDENS
EPC RATING E
OIRO £329,950

NEW PRICE

Oswestry 20 Hampton Road
4 BED DET HOUSE
NO CHAIN
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
EPC RATING E
OIRO £304,950

Oswestry Haulfryn Porth-y-waen
3 BED DET HOUSE
NO CHAIN
EQUINE FACILITIES
EPC RATING F
OIRO £299,950

NEW

Llanymynech Arddol Llandysilio
3 BED SEMI DET HOUSE
12 BAY STABLE BLOCK
APPROXIMATELY 3 ACRES
EPC RATING D
OIRO £294,950

PentreStone Cottage Melverley Road
4 BED DET HOUSE
NO CHAIN
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
EPC RATING D
OIRO £339,950

Llansantffraid Glanvyrnwy House
4 BED DETACHED
NO CHAIN
EPC RATING D
CAR PORT
ASKING PRICE £325,000

Treflach Oswestry Wddyn Cottage
3 BED DET HOUSE
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
EN SUITE MASTER BEDROOM
EPC RATING F
OIRO £269,950

SSTC
SIMILAR PROPERTIES
WANTED

Welshpool Hen Blas Salop Road
4 BED DET HOUSE
3 RECEPTION ROOMS
PERIOD FEATURES
EPC RATING F
OIRO £329,995

SSTC
SIMILAR PROPERTIES
WANTED

Oswestry 1 Southgate Close
4 BED DET HOUSE
NO CHAIN
3 RECEPTION ROOMS
EPC RATING C
£212,000

Selattyn Oswestry Rock House Gyrn Road
4 BED DET HOUSE
NO CHAIN
KITCHEN/ DINER
EPC RATING D
OIRO £269,950

NEW PRICE

Oswestry 25 Grosvenor Road
4 BED DET HOUSE
DOUBLE GARAGE
CONSERVATORY
EPC RATING D
OIRO £249,950

NEW PRICE

Oswestry 85 Cabin Lane
4 BED DET HOUSE
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
CONSERVATORY
EPC RATING D
OIRO £212,950

SSTC
SIMILAR PROPERTIES
WANTED

Oswestry 40 Park Avenue
3 BED TERRACED HOUSE
3 RECEPTION ROOMS
UTILITY ROOM
EPC RATING TBC
£189,950

WANTED NOW!
3 BED SEMI DETACHED
HOUSES
IN THE OSWESTRY AND
SURROUNDING VILLAGES
FOR WAITING PROCEEDABLE BUYERS!
UP TO £160,000
FREE VALUATION
NO OBLIGATION

WANTED NOW!
2 BED BUNGALOWS
AND HOUSES
IN THE OSWESTRY AND
SURROUNDING VILLAGES
FOR WAITING PROCEEDABLE BUYERS!
UP TO £130,000
FREE VALUATION
NO OBLIGATION

SSTC
SIMILAR PROPERTIES
WANTED

Oswestry 41 Windsor Road
3 BED SEMI DET BUNGALOW
KITCHEN/DINER
SHOWER ROOM
EPC RATING C
OIRO £149,950

Oswestry The Coach House Penygarrag Lane
2 BED DET HOUSE
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
OIL CENTRAL HEATING
EPC RATING TBC
OIRO £189,950

Oswestry 55 Henley Drive
3 BED DET HOUSE
NO CHAIN
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
EPC RATING C
OIRO £169,995

SSTC
SIMILAR PROPERTIES
WANTED

Oswestry 63 Smale Rise
2 BED SEMI DET HOUSE
KITCHEN/DINER
OFF ROAD PARKING
EPC RATING D
OIRO £124,950

SSTC
SIMILAR PROPERTIES
WANTED

Oswestry 6 Wats Drive
3 BED SEMI DET HOUSE
NO CHAIN
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
EPC RATING E
OIRO £122,950

SSTC
SIMILAR PROPERTIES
WANTED

Oswestry 10 Elgar Close
2 BED SEMI-DET BUNGALOW
NO CHAIN
KITCHEN/DINER
EPC RATING D
£109,950

SSTC
SIMILAR PROPERTIES
WANTED

Oswestry 86 Willow Street
2 BED SEMI DET HOUSE
NO CHAIN
GAS CENTRAL HEATING
EPC RATING C
OIRO £102,950

NEW

Whittington 17 Oaklands Drive
2 BED DET BUNGALOW
NO CHAIN
CONSERVATORY
EPC RATING D
ASKING PRICE £169,950

Oswestry 35 Gatacre Road
3 BED MID TERRACE HOUSE
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
MODERN KITCHEN
EPC RATING D
OIRO £149,950

NEW

Oswestry 7 Plas Newydd Close
2 BED SEMI DET HOUSE
CONSERVATORY
GARAGE
EPC RATING C
OIRO £149,950

NEW

Oswestry 173 Cabin Lane
3 BED SEMI DET HOUSE
NO CHAIN
CONSERVATORY
EPC RATING TBC
OIRO £149,950

NEW

St Martins 48 School Lane
3 BED SEMI DET HOUSE
NO CHAIN
LIVING ROOM/ DINER
EPC RATING D
OIRO £147,950

NEW

Oswestry 22 Perry View
2 BED DET BUNGALOW
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
NO CHAIN
EPC RATING E
OIRO £144,950

NEW

Oswestry 14 Ambleside Road
2 BED SEMI DETACHED
NO CHAIN
DOUBLE GLAZING
EPC RATING C
OIRO £134,950

NEW

Oswestry 7 Campbell Close
2 BED SEMI DET HOUSE
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
OFF ROAD PARKING
EPC RATING D
OIRO £129,950

NEW

Oswestry 78 Balmoral Crescent
2 BED SEMI DET HOUSE
OFF ROAD PARKING
GAS CENTRAL HEATING
EPC RATING C
OIRO £121,950

Oswestry 40 Ascot Road
2 BED TERRACE HOUSE
NO CHAIN
OFF ROAD PARKING
EPC RATING B
ASKING PRICE £117,500

LANDLORDS WANTED
FOR
HOUSES IN
OSWESTRY AND
SURROUNDING AREAS
FOR WAITING APPLICANTS
PLEASE CALL
01691 680 044
FOR MORE DETAILS

LETTINGS

19 SCHOOL ROAD, WEST FELTON. 2 BED TERRACED HOUSE ... £450 PCM
10 YORK STREET, OSWESTRY. 2 BED TERRACED HOUSE £450 PCM
23 YORK STREET, OSWESTRY. 2 BED TERRACED HOUSE £450 PCM
17 YORK STREET, OSWESTRY. 2 BED TERRACED HOUSE £450 PCM
15 MEWS COTTAGES, OSWESTRY. 2 BED TERRACED HOUSE ... £475 PCM
3 SYCAMORE CLOSE, ST MARTINS. 3 BED SEMI DET HOUSE .. £500 PCM
19 HERITAGE WAY, LLANYMYNECH. 4 BED SEMI DET HOUSE ... £525 PCM
3 VICTORIA GREEN, OSWESTRY. 2 BED TERRACED HOUSE £550 PCM
MEADOW VIEW, LLANYMYNECH. 3 BED DET HOUSE £650 PCM



Head and Shoulders Above The Rest

12 Leg Street • Oswestry • Shropshire • SY11 2NL



ASSOCIATED LONDON OFFICE

LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

REGIONAL COVERAGE

NATIONAL PRESENCE

Letting Fees

Credit Check
(per person aged 18 or over)
£50.00

Tenancy
Administration fee
£195.00

TOWN & COUNTRY

Tel :01691 679631

LETTINGS

- Oswestry, 1 Bed Flat £315pcm
- Weston Rhyn, 2 Bed Ap't £425pcm
- Oswestry, 2 Bed Ter £450pcm
- Oswestry, 2 Bed Semi £460pcm
- Oswestry, 2 Bed Semi £475pcm
- Llanfyllin, 3 Bed Semi £525pcm
- Llanrhaeadr, 4 Bed Cottage £550pcm
- Oswestry, 3 Bed Det £675pcm
- Llangedwyn, 3 Bed + Annexe £900pcm
- ****Fees Apply***
- ATTENTION LANDLORDS!
- DUE TO A VERY BUSY
- START TO THE YEAR
- WE ARE LOOKING FOR
- MORE PROPERTIES TO LET.
- PLEASE CALL FOR A FREE MARKET APPRAISAL.
- ON
- 01691 679 631

MOELFRE



- Detached Holiday Cottage
- Sought After Location
- One Bedroom

- Well Kept Gardens
- Off Road Parking
- Oil Central Heating

£99,950

LLANWDDYN



- Semi-Detached Home
- Three Bedrooms. EPC D.
- In Need of Modernisation

- Off Road Parking
- Original Features
- Double Glazing

Offers in the region of £104,995

OSWESTRY



- Charming Terraced Property
- Well Maintained
- NO CHAIN!! EPC D
- Two Reception Rooms
- Front and Rear Gardens
- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Sought After Location

£119,950

OSWESTRY

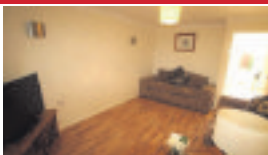


- Semi-detached Bungalow
- Cul-de-sac Location
- Garage and Parking

- Gas Central Heating
- Upvc Double Glazing
- Extended To Rear. EPC C

Offers in the region of £117,500

WESTON RHYN



- Modern Semi Detached
- Good Sized Rear Garden
- Excellent Condition

- Off Road Parking. EPC C.
- Gas C.H./ Upvc D. Glazing
- Ideal First Time Buy

£119,950

TREFLACH



- Detached Bungalow
- Four Double Bedrooms
- Excellent Presentation
- Garage With Workshop

- Elevated Rural Views
- Two En Suites. EPC E.
- Two Reception Rooms
- Upvc Double Glazing

£299,950

ST MARTINS



- Semi-detached House
- Three Bedrooms
- Good Sized Rear Garden

- Parking Space for Three Cars
- Village Location. EPC E.
- Part Upvc Glazing

Offers in the region of £124,950

OSWESTRY



- Victorian End of Terrace
- Three Bedrooms
- Period Features. EPC E.

- Ideal First Time Buy
- Investment Property
- Enclosed Rear Garden

Offers in the region of £126,950

LLANFYLLIN



- Semi-Detached House
- Three Bedrooms
- Available Now

- Local Amenities Close
- Village Location. EPC D.
- No dss/smokers

£136,000

NESSCLIFFE



- Semi Detached House
- Sought After Location
- Two Double Bedrooms

- Good Sized Rear Garden
- Off Road Parking. EPC D
- Upvc Double Glazing

Offers in the region of £149,950

LITTLE DAWLEY, TELFORD



- TO BE SOLD AT AUCTION
- Detached Bungalow
- Three Bedrooms
- Potential for Development

Guide price £150,000

LLANMYNECH



- Detached Village Cottage
- Good Sized Rear Garden
- Ideal For Further Development
- Two Double Bedrooms

£170,000

GOBOWEN



- Detached Family Home
- Three Bedrooms. EPC D
- Potential 4th Bed/small annexe

- Ground Floor Shower Room
- Village Location. EPC C.H.
- Views Over The Village

£185,000

PANT



- Split Level Family Home
- Edge Of Village Location EPC D
- Views Over Shropshire Plain

- Three Double Bedrooms Living & Dining Rooms Kitchen & Utility
- Garage & Driveway

£199,950

GLYN CEIRIOG



- Rural Location
- Three Acres
- Four Bedrooms

- Detached
- Landscaped Gardens
- Oil Central Heating

£369,950

EYTON, WREXHAM



- 3 Bedroom Detached Cottage
- Oil Central Heating
- Amazing Views

- Rural Location
- Double Glazing
- Well Presented

£249,950

ST MARTINS



- Large Corner Plot
- Detached Bungalow
- Three Bedrooms
- No Chain

Offers in the region of £190,000

LLANFYLLIN



- Modern Detached Bungalow
- Spacious Interior
- Detached Double Garage
- Cul de Sac Location. EPC C

£220,000

LLWYN MAWR



- NO CHAIN!!!
- Semi-detached Cottage
- 2/3 Acre Gardens
- Beautiful Rural Setting

£245,000

MELVERLEY



- Detached Country Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Potential For Extension
- Well Maintained. EPC E

Offers in the region of £249,995

FRONCYLLTE



- Detached Bungalow
- Set in Approx 3 Acres
- Various Outbuildings
- Elevated Rural Position

£350,000

OSWESTRY



- Modern Detached House
- Very High Specification
- Four Double Bedrooms
- Close To The Town Centre

£325,000



**TOWN &
COUNTRY**
PROPERTY AUCTIONS

**We are looking for properties in
Shropshire, Powys/Mid Wales and all Villages bordering Oswestry
To be entered into our next auction on
24th April 2014**

**We can sell
your property
for FREE!**

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being paid)



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28 BROAD STREET
WELSHPOOL
SY21 7RW

01938 554818

M

M

P

Oswestry office:
16 LEG STREET
OSWESTRY
SY11 2NN

01691 679595



MORRIS MARSHALL & POOLE
www.morrismarshall.co.uk



3 Hafod Cottages, Parc Offa Four Crosses

£118,000

- Modern 2 bedroom mid terraced house
- Fitted kitchen, lounge, cloak, fitted bathroom
- Enclosed easily maintained rear garden
- Gas-fired central heating, double glazing
- Subject to a Sec 106 occupancy restriction
- EPC Rating = 82 (B)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595



27 Brookhouse Road, Oswestry

£127,500

- Semi-Detached 3 bedroom house
- Lounge/diner, kitchen, shower room
- Gas central heating, double glazing
- Detached garage and parking
- Spacious front and rear gardens
- Easy reach of town centre
- Energy efficiency rating = 56

Oswestry Office 01691 679595

2 Hazel Close, Trewern



- Modern 3 Bed Semi-Detached House.
- Sitting Room, Kitchen/Diner, Bathroom
- Oil fired central heating. Double Glazed.
- Enclosed rear area. Off Street Car Parking.
- Energy efficiency rating = 72

£129,950

Welshpool Office 01938 554818



35 Walford Road, Oswestry

£125,000

- Detached Two Bedroom Bungalow
- Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Shower Room
- Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing
- Car Port, Garage, Enc Rear Garden
- Convenient for town bus route
- Energy Efficiency Rating = 55

Oswestry Office 01691 679595

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES TO LET OSWESTRY

- 1 Bed F/F Flat, Elec Heaters, FTE, No Pets, (EER=1)£200 pcm (£300 deposit)
Self Cont F/F, Bedsit, Elec/He, FTE, No Pets, (EER=36)£210 pcm (£310 deposit)
Self Cont G/F, Bedsit, Elec/He, FTE, No Pets, (EER=32)£210 pcm (£210 deposit)
1 Bed F/F Flat, Pkg, Garden, FTE, No Pets, (EER=52)£335 pcm (£435 deposit)
2 Bed Mid-Terr House, Gas C/H, D/G, Yard, (EER=59)£395 pcm (£395 deposit)
2 Bed Mid-Terr House, Gas C/H, D/G, Yard, (EER=70)£450 pcm (£550 deposit)
2 Bed Semi-Det House, Gas C/H, FTE, No Pets, (EER=58)£480 pcm (£580 deposit)

GOBOWEN

- 1 Bed F/F Flat, Elec/Heating, FTE, No Pets, (EER=68)£250 pcm (£350 deposit)
2 Bed Mid-Terr, Gas C/H, FTE, No Pets, (EER=58)£425 pcm (£525 deposit)

REDNAL

- 2 Bed Semi-Det Cott, FTE, No Pets, No Children (EER=31)£490 pcm (£590 deposit)

WESTON RHYN

- 4 Bed Det House, Rural Outlook, FTE, No Pets (EER=40)£800 pcm (£900 deposit)

MAESBURY MARSH

- 3 Bed Semi-Det House, Oil/C/H, FTE, No Pets (EER=29)£595 pcm (£695 deposit)

Non-Optional Fees:

Application Fee: £40. Lease Fee: £132.

All our rentals can now be found on www.rightmove.co.uk



Marrington Lodge, Chirbury
(£200,000 without the land)

£215,000

- Detached Country Property and Paddock of 0.64 Acre
- 2 Reception rooms with fireplaces, Kitchen
- 3 Double Bedrooms, Bathroom, Att Garage
- Separate W.C, Built-in Store, Garden
- Requires refurbishment and refitting
- Energy efficiency rating = 30

Welshpool Office 01938 554818



Land at the rear of Hart & Trumpet Gobowen. Guide Price

£165,000

- Outline Planning Reference 13/00304/OUT
- Approval for 8 Dwellings. A pair of terraces comprising 4 dwellings
- Dwellings affording 3 bedrooms over 100 m2. Central village location
- Amenities readily available (subject to approval)
- Parking and garage provision

Oswestry Office 01691 679595

Selling ?

Give us a ring to arrange a
Free, No Obligation
Market Appraisal
of your Property



Contact us on 01691 679595



Holly Cottage, Marton, Welshpool

£149,950

- End Terrace 2 Bedroom Village Cottage
- Sitting Room with woodburner. Kitchen/Diner
- Oil Fired Heating. Double Glazed
- Parking, Front lawn. Enclosed rear garden
- Open views to rear over farmland
- Convenient to Shrewsbury
- Energy efficiency rating = 52

Welshpool Office 01938 554818

ABERYSTWYTH • 01970 625020
LLANIDLOES • 01686 412567
MACHYNLLETH • 01654 702472

NEWTOWN • 01686 626160
OSWESTRY • 01691 679595
SHREWSBURY • 01743 247755

TYWYN • 01654 710388
WELSHPOOL • 01938 554818
ABERDYFI • WINDOW DISPLAY

Starter homes make brilliant first-time buy

After a flood of enquiries, Fletcher Homes at Wat's Meadow, Gobowen, have released further starter homes to meet the demand for smaller homes. The Sutton (pictured), a two-bedroom terraced house with parking, offers a great view over a central green and is perfect for first-time buyers. It offers well laid out accommodation with a lounge/dining room, kitchen, cloaks, bathroom and parking. The popular Help to Buy Scheme is also available – the Government will lend up to 20 per cent of the price, so the buyer only needs a five per cent deposit and a 75 per cent first mortgage. The Sutton type starts at £119,995, but with the Help to Buy scheme the purchaser would pay only £99,996. The homes will be ready this summer, and buyers who reserve early can make their own kitchen and tile selections. The development offers a selection of 124 new two, three and four-bedroom homes, just a few minutes' walk from the rail station. Find out more from the Wat's Meadow Sales Centre, open Thursday through to Monday from 11am to 5pm. Call 01691 679490 or 01743 267020.



Wat's Meadow, Gobowen, Oswestry, SY11 3JS

A mix of 2, 3 and 4 bedroom homes within walking distance of Gobowen village.



FLETCHER
FAMILY HOMES

Stop dreaming and start living in your first home!

2 bedroom starter homes with parking from only £99,996*



**PHASE 2
NOW
RELEASED!**

You can afford your first home for just £99,996*. The Sutton is a spacious well laid out 2 bedroom semi-detached house with lounge/dining, kitchen, cloaks and main bathroom with parking.

List price is £124,995. *£99,996 is based on a 75% mortgage and 5% deposit plus 20% Help to Buy Government loan. We also have beautiful 3 and 4 bedroom homes available. Help To Buy is available on all properties - go on, make your friends jealous!

Call 01691 679490

Showhome open 11am - 5pm (Thurs - Mon)

Email: homes@fletcherhomes.co.uk or visit www.fletcherhomes.co.uk



The best move you'll ever make!

Fletcher Homes (Shropshire) Limited, 95 Mount Pleasant Road, SHREWSBURY, Shropshire SY1 3EN Tel: 01743 267020.

Talk to our representative for full details. Illustration shows The Sutton at Wat's Meadow and example lifestyle images. YOUR HOME MAY BE AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON YOUR MORTGAGE OR ANY OTHER DEBT SECURED ON IT. Mortgage offer is subject to application and status. Limited offer available on selected plots only. Subject to contract.



Rural retreat with superb views and two acres

Occupying an elevated position with far-reaching country views, The Granary at Pant Farm, Glyn Ceiriog, is a refurbished semi-detached home with a paddock of around 2.3 acres, additional gardens and a wooded copse. The open plan living room, luxury kitchen, conservatory with balconies, and a snug/bedroom are set on the first floor to make the most of the views. The lower floor comprises a large bedroom, bathroom, walk-in wardrobe and shower room. There is oil-fired central heating, a workshop, car port and storage/stabling. The agents are seeking offers over £250,000. Call Bowen Son & Watson on 01691 772443 to view.



Extended bungalow is beautifully appointed

A beautifully appointed and extended detached bungalow with attractive gardens in the popular village of St Martins is on the market for offers around £207,500. Number 17 Trevor Avenue includes gas-fired central heating and double glazing throughout. In addition to a well-fitted kitchen, lounge and separate dining room there is also a snug with double-glazed doors to a conservatory, a single garage and additional off road parking. The rear garden is a particular feature with a patio, well tended lawn, shrub beds and an ornamental pond. Contact Town & Country on 01691679631 to arrange a viewing.



J. J. DELL & Co.

CHARTERED SURVEYORS

Please visit our Web site at www.jjdell.co.uk

OSWESTRY



- GFCH PVC D/G
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Living Room
- Dining Room
- Cloakroom & Laundry
- Four Bedrooms
- En-Suite
- Garage/Workshop
- EPC Rating - JJD838

OFFERS INVITED ON £255,000

ST. MARTINS.



- GFCH & D/G
- Kitchen
- Lounge
- Large Conservatory
- Three Bedrooms
- Workshop
- Extensive Rear Garden
- Bounded By Stream
- Semi-Rural Location
- EPC Rating - E - JJD836

OFFERS OVER £190,000

LLANFECHAIN



- Kitchen
- Drawing Room
- Lounge & Sun Room
- Library & Study
- Cloakroom
- 5 Bedrooms/2 Baths
- Double Garaging
- Possibility to split accommodation
- EPC Band - C JJD833

GUIDE PRICE £400,000

LLANRHAEDR YM MOCHNANT



- Traditional Village Cottage
- Oil Fired CH
- Sitting Room
- Dining Kitchen
- Conservatory
- 2 Bedrooms
- Rear Garden
- Adjoining Garage/Outbuilding with Loft
- EPC Band - F JJD834

£139,950

PANT, NR. OSWESTRY



- Oil Fired Central Heating
- Entrance Porch
- Lounge/Dining Room
- Breakfast/Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Enclosed Front Garden
- Parking for 4/5 cars
- Workshop
- Includes B/Plot with Full P/P for Dwelling
- EPC Band F JJD807

GUIDE PRICE £350,000

ST. MARTINS



- Detached House
- Occupying Pleasant Rural Position
- Opportunity for further improvement
- GFCH
- D/G & Secondary D/G
- Sitting Room & Living Room
- Dining Kitchen
- 3 Good Sized Bedrooms
- Garaging
- Good Sized Garden
- EPC Band D JJD805

£239,000

GOBOWEN



- Detached Three Bedroommed Split Level House
- GFCH, D/G
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£455 pcm

OSWESTRY



A spacious first floor flat situated within Oswestry town centre. The accommodation comprises a living room, modern kitchen, one double bedroom and bathroom. EER - 'E', £500 Deposit, £200 Standard Fees.

£300 pcm

OSWESTRY



APPLICATION RECEIVED

A modern one bedroom cottage situated within a secure private courtyard within Oswestry town centre. Comprising of open plan kitchen living with integrated appliances, one double bedroom, shower room and shared courtyard to the front. EER - D, £500 Deposit, £200 Standard Fees.

£400 pcm

OSWESTRY

AWAITING PHOTOGRAPH

A ground floor one bedroom apartment situated in a mature residential area with an off street parking space and small garden area. Available from the 1st April 2014. EER - E, £500 Deposit, £200 Standard Fees.

£350 pcm

GLYN CEIRIOG



A modern ground floor apartment situated within the centre of the village, comprising open plan kitchen and living area with decked sitting area, two good sized bedrooms, bathroom and designated parking. EER - C, £450 Deposit, £200 Standard Fees.

£450 pcm

WEST FELTON



NO CHAIN

A recently refurbished semi detached house in a popular village with easy access to the road network, comprising modern breakfast kitchen, living room, conservatory, two bedrooms, bathroom, enclosed rear garden and off street parking. EER - D.

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CAR BOOT Items good assortment. £15, Telephone 01691 653516

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Learning how to shop for meat on internet

Advertisement feature

THE seventh National Butchers' Week, which takes place between Monday, March 24, and Sunday, March 30, is launching a new campaign to teach the Internet generation how to shop for meat.

The leading industry magazine Meat Trades Journal, which organises the week with the support of key industry sponsors, is using the occasion to create an online 'Idiot's Guide to the Butcher's Shop' to help young people pluck up the courage to pay their high street butcher a visit.

The annual event will also be highlighting the unique service provided by butcher's shops including their many unusual, exciting and often cheap cuts of meat which people simply can't find in their local supermarket, as well as showing customers how to cook them.

The measures are among a number taking place nationwide throughout the week, which promises to be bigger and better than ever with butchers, schools and consumers all set to take part.

Dozens of special recipes to try out before, during and after National Butchers' Week - all celebrating the UK's rich heritage as a nation of meat lovers - can be found on this site.

Thousands of butchers throughout the country will also be holding special events throughout the week, ranging from tasting sessions aimed at enticing young people to sausage making demonstrations, which shoppers can



Jamie Ward, a traditional family butcher.

take part in by dropping in at their local butcher.

High street butchers have a wealth of knowledge and expertise about meat and can advise you on everything from unusual cuts and recipe ideas to cooking times and storage tips.

With this in mind, just pop into your local shop and don't be afraid to ask for advice.

Schools across the country will be taking part in the week of celebrations with lessons based around that perennial children's favourite - the sausage.

The lesson plans all link into the National Curriculum for 5-7 year olds and give schools the opportunity to link production of food from farm through to fork, in a fun and informative way for young children.

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SPOTLIGHT ON LLANGOLLEN

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Visitors can enjoy a ride on a steam train during their trip to this interesting and attractive town

LLANGOLLEN in North Wales is a small town of some 3,000 people and is best known for hosting an eisteddfod each July.

Its famous Dee Bridge was built by Bishop Trevor, of Trevor Hall, in 1345.

It is a scheduled ancient monument and was widened in the 1960s to accommodate modern traffic.

The town itself is loved by shoppers

Advertisement feature

on the hunt for exciting and unusual gifts and there are also many interesting walks to be found.

One is a route along the canal from the town to the Chain Bridge Hotel and Horseshoe Falls.

Another is Bishops Walk from the Bridge End Hotel side of the river

bridge along the Dee, past the old mill sluice gates to the remains of the weir,

then past views of St Collen's Church over the river, and on to the Sarah

Ponsonby Inn.

As well as shopping it has become a go-to destination for amateur dramatics shows, with popular groups producing impressive performances, musicals, operas, cabaret and concerts.

According to www.llangollen.com, there are at least 100 groups with a multitude of different interests in the locality, so visitors will be spoilt for choice.

Among the most interesting places to visit are Valle Crucis Abbey, which dates from the 13th century..



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Frosty will be ready to welcome visitors

Advertisement feature

IT'S training time for Frosty the Welsh cob, the latest in a long line of magnificent horses who have propelled pleasure boat trips along the Llangollen Canal over the past 125 years.

Frosty may be only four years-old but he's already showing great promise and he's certainly in good hands.

As well as being experienced group organisers, Steve Furniss and his wife Steph, who have run the family business at Llangollen Wharf since 2010, are also dab hands when it comes to training the horses that propel their boats.

Once Frosty's year-long schooling is complete, he will join his six stable mates in taking turns to pull the traditional pleasure boats on 45 minute and two hour trips from the wharf through the picturesque Dee Valley.

Llangollen's horse drawn pleasure boat trips have been attracting tourists since 1884 and the recent award of World Heritage Status on the canal between here and Telford's awe-inspiring aqueduct at Pontcysyllte has boosted the site's profile even further.

Steve explained: "The canal, which weaves its way from the famous Horseshoe Falls and crosses the Dee Valley in the most spectacular manner at Pontcysyllte, has become a must see for visitors to the area and we feel privileged to be able to help them make the most of their experience."

"We offer a range of boat trips along the canal including a 45 minute horse



Frosty is in training for the new season.

drawn trip towards Horseshoe falls, which affords a gentle taster of the wonderful scenery, and a longer, two hour trip which includes a stop off to view the falls themselves.

"From the Wharf we also run a motorised two hour cruise which includes a crossing of the aqueduct."

"We pride ourselves on giving visitors an unforgettable experience."

Following their excursion visitors can sample a delicious Welsh cream tea or enjoy a spot of lunch at the Wharf's own Tea Rooms.

They might then choose to visit the many other attractions that Llangollen has to offer, including the heritage steam railway, less than a minute from the Wharf.

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AALA

NEWS
in brief

Cars damaged in separate crashes

THREE parked cars were damaged in two separate collisions which police believe were caused by the same driver.

Parts from a Seat Ibiza were found at the scene of each collision, which happened overnight on Monday, March 10 in Oswestry.

Police say the first car to be struck was a Nissan Micra which was parked in York Street.

Police believe the Ibiza car then hit the rear of another parked Nissan Micra in Wats Drive.

The impact forced the Micra forwards into a parked Ford Fiesta.

Police have appealed for witnesses to get in contact.

Safety posters aimed at bikers

POSTERS reminding motorcyclists to ride safely are being placed on roads across the county, Powys County Council has announced.

Thanks to funding from the Welsh Government, the council's Road Safety Unit is distributing 150 Ride Safely posters.

The posters also have a grid reference sticker and location marker on the back so that if a motorcyclist is involved in a collision or breaks down, they can use the sticker to provide their location on unfamiliar roads. For details e-mail road.safety@

Talks on the return of cardboard collections

DISCUSSIONS are continuing to take place on bringing back kerbside cardboard collections later this year.

Collections to more than 130,000 homes were controversially stopped by Shropshire Council and contractor Veolia in November 2011.

But hopes are high they will return later this year once Veolia updates its current fleet of vehicles.

Keith Barrow, leader of Shropshire Council, said details of how the collections would work were still being worked out with Veolia.

He said it was possible cardboard could be recycled alongside paper.

He added it was intended the kerbside collections would be back some time this year. The Conservative group had promised the return of the collections in its manifesto for last year's local elections.

"We are planning to bring back kerbside collections," he said.

"As soon as the vehicles get changed, we will decide where they will go. We are looking to get it recycled with newspapers."

The collections were stopped in November 2011, with council officials saying changes to national composting rules meant cardboard could not be mixed with garden waste in green bins.

The issue of the possible

by Joseph Masi

return of the collection was raised last month in a meeting of Shropshire Council's performance management scrutiny committee by Councillor Alan Mosley, leader of the Labour group on the council.

He asked whether the council would be able to maintain its commitment to bring back the collections in 2014.

Councillor Steve Charmley, cabinet member with responsibility for waste, said it is possible the roll-out will be delayed, depending on when new refuse trucks are ordered.

The council is currently engaged in a review of its waste contract with Veolia, which was signed in 2007 to run for 27 years.

It is hoped savings can be found from the contract to contribute towards the authority's efforts to make £80 million cuts over the next three years.

Politician on visit to village school



Joel Rees-Jones from Natural Resources Wales, Year 5 pupils Katie Barre and James Lewis and Ken Skates.

CHILDREN at a village school were given a helping hand with their nature project when a local politician dropped in to see their work.

Clwyd South Labour AM Ken Skates was invited to Ysgol Cynddelw, at Glyn Ceiriog, by teacher Hannah Parkinson to take part in a programme run by Natural Resources Wales.

Natural Resources Wales and the school have teamed up to carry out a

study on salmon. Part of the project will see the school releasing fish into the River Ceiriog.

Mr Skates said: "Ysgol Cynddelw is a lovely school and I was delighted to be asked along."

"It was fantastic to be part of such an interesting project which really inspired the children and made for a fun learning experience."

"We studied salmon in a tank spe-

cially fitted by Natural Resources Wales and looked at their eggs, which will hatch later this year and then be released into the River Ceiriog.

"It was a fascinating afternoon and I now know more about salmon than I thought was possible."

He added: "I really enjoyed my visit to Ysgol Cynddelw. The school has a wonderful atmosphere and it was a pleasure meeting the staff and pupils."

Council to tackle cemetery flooding

WORK will be carried out at a village graveyard to reduce the risk of flooding after one grave was covered in water following the recent wet weather, parish councillors have been told.

The work will be carried out during drier weather at Hengoed cemetery, members of Selattyn and Gobowen Parish Council have heard. The council is responsible for the running of the small cemetery.

Clerk Penny O'Hagan told councillors at last week's meeting: "It is in the older part of the cemetery."

"There is a section there of standing water. Historically there has always been standing water there and I have spoken to the owners of the grave involved."

"We will have a look in the drier months to see if we can build up the soil. I don't think we can do anything about the drainage."

The councillors also heard the wet weather had taken its toll on the play park in the village. Concerns about the state of the park, off St Martins Road, were raised during the public participation part of the meeting.

Councillor Sue Crow said the area had historically been prone to problems because of the groundwater level. Mrs O'Hagan added the problem was worse this year due to the wet weather.

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Immigrant robins safe from hunting and shooting

TOWARDS the end of this month, we really can see that "M" stands for both March and migration.

As temperatures begin to pick up, our beloved winter visitors, various waterfowl and the ever rowdy fieldfares, waxwings and redwings all leave us to do a veritable swap with Scandinavia.

The summer migrants are well on their way to our shores and by the end of the month it's possible to see new arrivals such as chiffchaffs and wheatears.

However since I like to try and keep this column as accessible as possible, there is just time to say goodbye to a winter migrant you are sure to see whether in town or country. The robin. A firm favourite with many of us and very easy to sex – simply guess! Some texts suggest that the brown forehead is "V" shaped in females, and "U" shaped in males, though even this is not always apparent.

But what do I mean "winter migrant"? Well in the winter, our resident birds are joined by immigrants from continental Europe, mostly from Scandinavia; these robins are slightly paler than ours and have a duller red breast. That's all well and good but how do we know if one lands in our garden? The answer is; it probably won't. The immigrants are generally less tame as they skulk in woodlands, only British robins are a tame garden bird. The British affection for the robins not shared elsewhere in Europe, where they are shot for food or for sport. If only there was a way to tell these visitors that they are probably safer here!

Having said that nearly three quarters

ON THE WILDSIDE

with Ben Waddams



of robins in Britain die before they are one year old, either caught by predators or unable to fend for themselves and 10 per cent of older robins die defending their territory. They are a feisty bird and whereas many animals set up territories specifically for breeding, robins are territorial all year round. During the spring and summer this territoriality is indeed for breeding but, at other times, individual robins hold territories for feeding.

Juvenile robins, shortly to begin making themselves visible in our gardens once they fledge, have speckled buff-brown upper parts and underparts. Like a deer fawn this helps them with camouflage but it is important too that they not get mixed up in fatal territorial disputes with adults. These speckled feathers are lost in a partial moult when the bird is Immigranttwo to three months old.

But be careful when identifying a young robin. During breeding times, when the male robin has found a mate, he will strengthen a bond by bringing the female food. Items such as worms and caterpillars leave her quivering with excitement and begging noisily for more whilst shaking her wings. This action is often mistaken by people to be the mother feeding the young. Not so. Ben's artwork can be seen in Callaghan's Fine Paintings, Shrewsbury.



The feisty little robin is territorial all year round and sings to mark his turf

Heart patients to benefit from iPad donations

HEART patients across Shropshire and Mid Wales are to benefit from a generous donation of iPads which will help to identify whether they are eligible for specialist treatment.

The two tablets will help the heart assessment team at Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust to quickly identify patients who are suitable for specialist surgery or therapy.

It will ensure they are getting the best support for their condition while in hospital.

The iPads, which are pre-loaded with a variety of specific applications, have been donated by the charity the Pumping Marvellous Foundation, with the support of medical technology supplier Medtronic.

They will help to identify patients who are suitable for cardiac resynchronisation therapy or implantable cardiac defibrillators.

Karen Robinson, heart assessment team manager at Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust, said: "We're delighted to receive this generous donation of iPads, which will bring great benefits to our patients and will be a real asset to our service."

"The pre-loaded applications on the new iPads will provide our staff with specialist advice, with access to NICE guidelines which will be really useful in informing our patient management, as well as giving us the ability to access and input in real time to the national heart failure database."

"The quick identification of patients suitable for device therapy that the iPads will provide, will result in quicker referrals to consultant cardiologists."

"Ultimately, where appropriate, patients will benefit from access to clinically proven heart failure intervention either to promote resynchronisation of the heart or by treating dangerously fast heart rates."

"We are very grateful to Medtronic and the Pumping Marvellous Foundation for this brilliant donation which will benefit the patients we serve."

Representatives from Medtronic and the Pumping Marvellous Foundation visited the Princess Royal Hospital (PRH) in Telford to present the iPads, which will also be used at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital.

They also met up with some of the staff who will use them.



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THE ARTS

Reassurance given on youth centre's future

By Iain St John

ACTIVITIES at a town's youth centre are set to be extended in the future despite the proposed axing of several council-run youth clubs, the chairman of a group based at the premises said.

Jay Moore, who runs Fusion Arts Oswestry from The Centre at Oak Street, said the facility is "100 per cent not closing" despite the planned closure of many of its clubs.

Under Shropshire Council cost-cutting plans the Centre's youth forum, its junior and senior youth clubs and its Friday night Girls Group are set for the axe.

Mr Moore said despite the impending closure of the council-run clubs, the future of the £2.2 million youth centre, which only opened in December 2012, still remained bright.

And he said Fusion Arts Oswestry, which runs various activities, workshops and projects from the centre, was planning to expand what it provides at the base.

He said: "The Centre is 100 per cent not closing, there is absolutely no chance of that happening whatsoever. Fusion Arts is carrying on in in the building as normal."

"We have lots of support from Shropshire Council especially from Councillors Keith Barrow and Vince Hunt who were instrumental in setting us up.

"They have both been really supportive.

"It is not just Fusion Arts which op-



Jay Moore at The Centre

erates from The Centre, the St John Ambulance are also here and they run cadet sessions."

According to a report by Shropshire Council on the cuts, among the planned changes is the axing of any council funding to Saturday morning activities run by Fusion Arts Oswestry.

But Mr Moore said there was no

council funding of the Saturday morning activities in any case.

He said: "We will carry on unaffected and there will be no changes to Fusion Arts."

"They are not closing The Centre down, they have been very supportive, they really have.

"We are growing, not closing."

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Source: ABC

Talented trio to share stage at The Cross Keys

GIG GUIDE

with Edward

THREE is the magic number this week as Leah Abramson, Rayna Gellert and Patrick Metzger will be performing at The Cross Keys, Selattyn on Sunday.

The talented trio are each well known in their own right but will be sharing that stage and each other's songs for this rare UK performance.

First up is Vancouver based singer songwriter Leah Abramson, who has made quite a name for herself on the international music scene with her band the Abramson Singers.

Most recently her new album 'Late Riser' has seen significant airplay on Radio 3.

Both Leah and Rayna are old friends having performed together on numerous occasions, with Rayna having also joined in on the recording of 'Late Riser'.

Her latest album 'Old Light - Songs from my Childhood & Other Gone Worlds' was met with critical acclaim.

Rounding out the trio is Patrick Metzger the skilled double bass player for 'Petunia and the Vipers.' The gig starts at 8pm with tickets costing £8. For more information ring 01691 791500.

If you're looking for a way to spend



Leah Abramson on stage at The Cross Keys.

your Friday night, then why not head over to The Royal Oak, Welshpool as Synergy will be performing a special gig in aid of Macmillan.

The event is being held to help Oak regular Nia Jones, who will be running the London Marathon in April, raise money for the charity.

The gig starts at 9pm and is free entry, though donations to the cause

are welcome.

On Saturday Paul Rees the former editor of Q Magazine and Kerrang! will be heading to Oswestry to give a special talk on the life of rock legend Robert Plant at 2.30pm.

The event is being held at The Dining Rooms and will aim to give a definitive look at life of the former Led Zeppelin superstar. Tickets are £10.

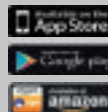


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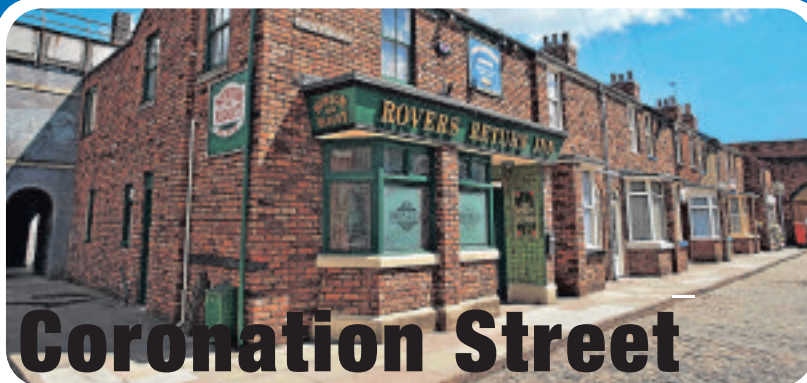
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The behind-the-scenes tour explores the studios containing some of the soap's best known sets. Visit the cast dressing rooms, reminisce with footage of memorable scenes and iconic props and visit actual room sets opened up to the public for the first time.

This two-day trip also includes a visit to the charming medieval city of Chester, where there will be plenty of time to explore the Rows - two tiers of covered walkways found along the four main streets, and the beautiful red sandstone cathedral. There's also a great variety of shopping from independent boutiques to high street stores and plenty of places for something to eat and drink.



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NEWS
in briefPowys business
survey launched

BUSINESSES in Mid Wales are being asked to take part in an online survey to give their view about their experience when they contact the county council.

The business friendliness survey is being conducted to help give Powys County Council a better understanding of how and what services businesses contact, how they feel they are treated by staff and if they receive the advice and support they want or need.

The survey has been emailed to 4,000 businesses but if anyone else running a business in Powys would like to respond they can go to the council's website www.powys.gov.uk

Pupils inspired
by art gallery visit

A GROUP of students paid a visit to an art gallery in Powys to get ideas for their own art exhibition.

The Year 7 and 8 pupils from Llanfyllin High School spent a day at the Andrew Logan Museum of Sculpture in Berriew.

The pupils are curating their own exhibition at The Workhouse Gallery, Llanfyllin, throughout this month.

Elizabeth Nash from the high school said: "The students were fascinated by the scale, colour and materials used in the sculptures."

Le Tissier spot on for a big presentation night

by Carl Jones

FORMER England star **Matthew Le Tissier** praised the work of the Shropshire Junior Football League when he appeared as guest of honour at its 40th anniversary celebrations.

The Channel Islander had hot-footed it up to Shrewsbury from the Sky Sports studios to attend the event at the Greenhouse Meadow.

He entertained the audience in an on-stage conversation with Shropshire Star assistant editor Carl Jones, signed dozens of autographs, posed for countless pictures, and helped league officials to hand out a string of awards.

Le Tissier, who is now a regular pundit on Sky Sports' Soccer Saturday show, praised the role of organisations such as the Shropshire Junior Football League for providing an important stepping stone for many professional players.

Mike Hames, the league's chairman, told the 160-strong audience: "Shropshire Junior Football League has come a long way since it started in the 1973/74 season with 25 teams."

"It now has a turnover of £20,000 with 167 teams from un-



George Lewis receives his award.



Matthew Le Tissier with Carl Jones.



Dave Ralphs, Bernie Butler and Le Tissier



Matthew Le Tissier

der-eight to under-16."

The League handed out its own awards, with George Lewis of Oswestry Boys and Girls Club named Secretary of the Season.

Three long service awards were handed out at Saturday night's

event, recognising officials who have given up years of their time to promote grassroots football in Shropshire.

The first went to Rob Orme, who came into junior football back in 1991 and has been treas-

urer of Shropshire Junior Football League since 1993.

The second went to Bernie Butler, who became involved in junior football with Baschurch Juniors in 1992 and has been vice president of the Shropshire Junior Football

League for the past decade.

And the third winner was league chairman Mike Hames, who has been involved in junior football in Shropshire for 22 years, and chairman of the league since the year 2000.

Oswestry students visit Lake Vyrnwy

STUDENTS from Oswestry got a glimpse behind the scenes at the inner workings of a hotel this week as part of their training.

The hospitality and catering students from Scholars Restaurant, based at the Oswestry Campus of Walford and North Shropshire College, enjoyed an access all areas visit to the Lake Vyrnwy Hotel and Spa.

General manager Anthony Rosser personally gave the staff and students the tour, and provided the students with a lesson in giving excellent customer service, explaining how the hotel achieves this standard and why this ethos is so important to the business.

The group really enjoyed the trip to the hotel and also had the opportunity to meet with head chef David Thompson who gave the students an idea of what it is like to work in the hospitality and catering industry.

Scholars Restaurant is currently open Tuesdays and Wednesdays term-time only, serving coffee, lunch and snacks from 10am to 1.30pm.

To view a sample menu visit the website at www.scholarsoswestry.co.uk or to book a table call the restaurant on (01691) 688053.

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Honda Tourer in good shape

By Graham Breeze

With more and more companies entering the compact estate market, Honda just could not afford to be left behind, so the Civic Tourer was a 'must' for the Japanese brand.

The British-built Tourer brings a brand of distinctive styling and class-leading utility, while offering an impressive balance between fuel economy and performance.

The Tourer has the same wheelbase as the hatch but is 235mm longer in rear overhang which you would expect to have a detrimental effect on design.

But it actually improves the appearance and gives the car a completely distinctive look, which is important in an age of look-alikes.

Honda was determined the wedge-like profile would not come at the expense of space and surprisingly has managed to create a class-leading 624 litres of boot space, including 117 litres beneath the false floor.

The space has been created by clever positioning of the fuel tank underneath the front seats, allowing the rear seats to be folded flat to reveal 1,668 litres of space.

The Civic Tourer is available with the choice of two engines; the 1.8 i-TEC petrol and the new Earth Dreams Technology 1.6 i-DETEC diesel, and four generously equipped trim levels.

Both engines come with a six-speed manual gearbox, while the petrol car buyers can add a five-speed torque converter.

The diesel costs up to £1,210 more than

the manual petrol, but is over 60 per cent more fuel efficient, 72.4-74.3mpg, against 43.5-45.6mpg, and also emits far less CO2, 99-103g/km against 146-149 g/km.

The entry level S grade includes features such as Bluetooth hands-free telephone, DAB radio, USB connectivity and 16in alloy wheels.

In addition the SE Plus, the next level up, has rear parking sensors and 17in alloys, whilst SR customers will benefit from the new world-first rear Adaptive Damper System (ADS), front heated seats, HDD navigation and privacy glass.

Those who opt for the top EX grade will receive headlight washer, smart entry and start capability, sunglasses holder, interior blue ambient lighting and Bi-HID headlights with auto levelling.

Comfortable

Up front is a comfortable place to be with fully-adjustable seats and steering column and the fascia is easily recognised as Honda's with the usual combination of high quality plastics and easy-to-remember switch positions.

Every inch of space is cleverly utilised, meaning front and rear-seat passenger can be comfortably accommodated, but rising glass lines mean rear vision is not the best in sector.

There's no excuse for questioning the handling of this model because Honda has developed a world-first rear Adaptive Damper System, which automatically adjusts the rear suspension damping force, enhancing stability and comfort.

Another first is the option to add Honda's new suite of safety technologies to a C-segment car.

Based on the philosophy of 'safety for



'Honda was determined the wedge-like profile would not come at the expense of space'

everyone', it uses a combination of cameras, short-range lidar and radar to deliver safety in all conditions.

The new Driver Assistance Safety Pack is available as a factory-fit option from SE models upwards for £780, with City-Brake Active System, forward collision warning, high beam support system, lane departure warning, traffic sign recognition system, and blind spot information.

Safety Pack Two is only available on EX

Plus models and for an additional £2,500 benefits from all the features in Safety Pack One as well as automatic cruise control and collision mitigation braking, in place of the City Brake Active System.

A comfortable ride and superb handling coupled with the versatile load space and a stunning diesel engine mean Honda will be competitive, but the questions will revolve around pricing, which with an entry level of £20,265, may put some buyers off.

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Volvo lays down challenge

By Matt Joy

The last few years have been interesting for Volvo. From being part of the mighty Ford empire to being snapped up by a Chinese corporation, the Swedish car maker has been forced to become more agile and independent in an increasingly crowded market.

The notion of independence has included developing more of its own tech and engines since it cut the cord with Ford, and although these things take time, it's now that we can see the fruits of its labours.

Focusing on the increasingly important issues of emissions and economy, Volvo's decision to go down the four-cylinder diesel route isn't surprising. Its promise of the usually unobtainable high power and reduced noise combination, however, is.

These new in-house developed and produced turbo diesel engines promise to give the likes of BMW, Audi and Mercedes a few sleepless nights – exactly the brands Volvo seeks to challenge.

Fitted to the firm's fleet-friendly S60 saloon, the new 2.0-litre D4 motor boasts 181 horsepower and, crucially, emits only 99g/km CO₂ plus offers a combined economy figure of 74.3mpg.

You might think that Volvo's decision to base its future on four-cylinder engines is a risky one, but the reality is very different.

Clever engineering and the desire to simplify its line-up has resulted in a pack-



'To complement the new engine range Volvo has introduced a six-speed manual and eight-speed auto gearbox'

age that's equal to, and in many cases better than, the competition.

On the road the S60 delivers a refined, quiet and polished driving experience that's on par with the best Germany has to offer. The Volvo engineers' efforts to banish unnecessary noise and vibration from the cabin has been successful, with the car delivering a rattle-free performance.

To complement the new engine range Volvo has introduced a new six-speed manual and eight-speed auto gearbox option.

While these engineering changes are a

big deal, the rest of the S60 has remained the same as before. Far from being a bad thing, the car's soft curves, practical saloon shape and driver-friendly cabin help set it apart from its often more clinical rivals.

And if you're keen to stick with the business user theme for the D4-powered S60, the generous level of standard equipment, plush interior and practical cabin and boot space should take the edge of those long, dull motorway journeys. All in all, the updates to the range have done a great job of boosting the S60's appeal. The Volvo S60 D4 SE Nav is priced from £29,395.

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Official Fuel Consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the Fabia Hatch SE 1.2 12V 69PS: Urban 38.7 (7.3), Extra Urban 62.8 (4.5), Combined 51.4 (5.5). CO₂ emissions for the Fabia Hatch SE 1.2 12V 69PS 128g/km. Standard EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results.

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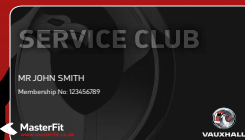
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Llanidloes boost their drop fears with point

LLANRHAEDR slipped closer to the relegation trapdoor in the Huws Gray Cymru Alliance after another spirited display failed to prevent a narrow 1-0 home loss to Caernarfon Town.

A 28th minute effort from Clive Williams proved enough to separate the sides, the front runner weaving his way into the box before providing a neat finish.

Despite missing the influence of player boss George Hughes, they more than matched a side challenging near the top of the table.

Ben White was denied by a good save, Mark Griffiths also had a shot turned round the post, while the hosts also had strong claims for a penalty turned down after substitute Jack Edwards appeared to be pulled down inside the box.

After suffering their first loss since late October at Llanidloes Town in mid-week, GUILDSFIELD were on the wrong end of another 2-1 scoreline at Flint Town.

The Guils had trailed 2-0 at the break through goals from Mark Winslade (11) and Luke Camden's free header (30), but revived their hopes when substitute Nathan Leonard pulled one back on 63 minutes.

Half-time changes gave Guils a kick start, and it was Leonard who gave the visitors hope with a goal on the hour. Despite their efforts, the equaliser did not arrive, with Danny Barton hitting the post.

Elsewhere, a last-gasp strike from substitute Matthew Savage earned Llanidloes Town a crucial 1-1 draw at basement rivals Buckley Town to further boost their hopes of survival.

Buckley looked set for the points after taking the lead through Nathan Martland's 55th minute strike but Llanidloes salvaged a share of the spoils to move three points clear of the drop zone.

Caerswrs drew 1-1 at home to Conwy Borough, with Mark Griffiths (75) cancelling out a ninth minute opener from Matthew Holt.

Saturday's Huws Gray Cymru Alliance fixtures (2.30p): Caerswrs v Llanidloes T, Flint Town v Caernarfon T, Guildsfield v Cefn Druids, Holyhead Hotspur v Llandudno, Penryncoch v Penycas, Porthmadog v Llanrhaeadr, Rhayader T v Conwy Borough, Rhydymwyn v Buckley T.

Market go goal-crazy over Foxes

ATHLETICO Market, who head the North Shropshire Sunday Futsal League with Cross Foxes, boosted their goal difference with an 11-1 hammering of The Keys.

Leading scorer Karl Bailey led the charge with seven, Josh Sumner grabbed a hat-trick and Macrea Evans the other goal.

Dudleston Heath came from behind to beat The Tavern 6-5, Stuart Williams notching a hat-trick, Matt Hudson (2) and Lee Davies scoring the sixth.

For The Tavern, Cian Curley and Jon Beckett scored twice with Jo Kilvert the other.

There were default 3-0 wins for Cross Foxes over The Oak, Malpas Athletic Market against The Tavern and Lodge over Malpas. The title decider between Cross Foxes and Athletic Market is next Sunday (12.15pm).

Fixtures: Tavern v Oak Inn, The Keys v Tavern, Oak Inn v The Keys, Athletic Market v Cross Foxes, Dudleston v Athletic Market, Cross Foxes v Lodge Inn, Lodge Inn v Dudleston.



The Moreton Hall first team at the National Schools' Lacrosse Championships

Moreton girls are tops

IT'S official – Oswestry's Moreton Hall is the third best lacrosse team in the UK!

Having been crowned this year's North Schools' champions and the Scottish Schools' tournament winners, the Moreton Hall under-18A Lacrosse team finished in a stunning third place at the National Schools' Lacrosse Championships in Guildford, Surrey.

The impressive team finished ahead of much larger rivals such as Downe House, Stowe, Putney High School, St Mary's Calne, Charterhouse, Cheltenham Ladies' College, St. Swithuns and Godolphin.

"What we witnessed on the lacrosse fields at the Nationals has to be the pinnacle of our Lacrosse career in Moreton's 100 year history," said principal Jonathan Forster.

"The commitment our girls showed was

incredible and embodied everything I have ever wanted for the students of Moreton Hall: drive, passion, focus, team players and unrelenting ambition. This is one of the highlights in my twenty-two years at the school."

Head of Sport, Kate Groves added: "I cannot be more proud of what both our first and second lacrosse teams and coaching staff achieved at the National Schools' Lacrosse Championships."

"For our first team to be placed in the top four of 53 schools nationally, after one of the most exciting semi-finals I have ever watched was outstanding."

Former Welsh International Lacrosse player, Storm Trentham added: "Watching Moreton at the nationals was one of the most inspiring things ever. In every game they stepped up and looked so classy."

Oswestry Green machine Lewis putting on the style

Rugby youngsters in picture

GOLF

By John Bridgwater



AN Oswestry groundsman has completed 40 years service to one of the region's best-loved golf courses – and celebrated his 50th year in the game by leading his team in a county final.

Allen Lewis, 57, of Balmoral Crescent in Oswestry, is course manager of Llanymynech Golf Club, and now has an area on the course named in his honour. Keeping it in the family, Allen's son Matthew also works on the green keeping staff at the club.

On Sunday, March 30, the county Hargrove final takes place at Llanymynech Golf Club and Allen will captain the club's first team when they meet the winners of Shrewsbury or Wrekin clubs.

Having left Oswestry Boys Modern School aged 15, Allen started work as a trainee green keeper and recalls some of the major changes over the years.

"The course was once totally covered with sheep and the greens had low electric fences around them which made for difficult playing conditions for members but in the 1970s the club took over the lease on the land and the sheep were removed," he said.

"In the very hot summer of 1976, the course suffered badly from scorching but major investment by the club saw a fantastic automatic sprinkler system installed which transformed the condition of the course and this was added to by new high-tech mowing machines which produced a far better finish on the greens and fairways than the old tractor and gang-mowers."

Expertise

Besides his expertise in grounds management, Allen has had great success within the game of golf itself, having played for over 50 years and is the current joint holder of the club's outright course record with a score of 64.

Allen continued: "I was very lucky to have played over the years with the likes of Ian Woosnam, Sandy Lyle and our own club professional Andy Griffiths and have met some wonderful people in the game. Our current teams are also doing well which is fantastic news for the club as a whole."

"As green keepers we take a great pride in the course and the positive feedback from both members and visitors alike provides true job satisfaction for me and the team."

Allen has also been club champion on two separate occasions and won many competitions over the years with various county golf teams, but he admits to achieving his greatest honour when the newly created six-hole Academy Course at Llanymynech was named after him to mark his 40 years of loyal service.

Club secretary Howard Jones commented: "Allen's dedication and commitment to the club over the years has been exceptional and we are very fortunate to have a person of his calibre looking after our course, and that is why the club were delighted to name the Academy area after him to show our appreciation."

Justin time for win

JUSTIN Williams was rewarded for an outstanding Winter League season at Welshpool Golf Club by clinching the championship on Saturday.

Williams finished with 38 points, three points ahead of Peter Brooks and Ian Davies on 35 points. Mike Williams was fourth on 25.

Saturday's Swindle was won by Dave Rowlands beating Bob Aldridge on the countback with both finishing on 45.5 points. Martin Mitton was third on 46 with Will Pritchard fourth on 46.5.

Sunday's Rabbits & Tigers was won by Steve Trow and Mike Gittins on 41 points, from Charlie Emberton and Kevin Salter on 43, Peter Jones and Dave Jones on 44 who beat Mark Jones and Ian Evans on the countback.



The Welshpool under-nines rugby team who beat local rivals Newtown twice at the junior tournament



The Welshpool under-11 rugby players who won two games in the junior tournament

WELSHPOOL'S youngsters had mixed fortunes in when they took their junior rugby tournament, writes John Bridgwater.

The under-nines beating local rivals

Newtown 25-0 and 25-10 while losing 35-10 and 30-10 to Builth Wells, with the players showing big improvements from when the teams met at the start of the season.

The under-11s also showed encouraging form in their tournament, winning 15-10 against Llanidloes and 30-20 against Bala, while losing 20-0 to Newtown and 25-0 to COBRA.

STANDINGS

Mercian Football League

Shropshire Challenge Cup third round: AFC Broseley 2, Church Stretton 0. Premier Division: Hodnet 2, Bridgnorth Res 1; Ketter Bank Utd 2, Wellington Amateurs Res 0; Morfa Utd 1, Whitchurch Alport 1; Oaken-gates Athletic 3, Weston Rhyn 1; Telford Juniors 3, Shifnal Utd 2. Division one: Brown Clea 1, Oaken-gates Res 2; Clea Hill 1, Shrewsbury Utd Res 2; Dawley Town 1, Rock Rovers 1; Hanwood Utd Res 0, Bishops Castle Town 2; Meole Brace 1, Oswestry Town 3; Oswestry Villa 1, Wroxeter Rovers 5; Shrewsbury Utd 0, Childs Ercall 5. Division two: Claverley 2, Highley Miners Welfare 1; Impact Utd 2, AFC Wellington 3; Ludlow Town Colts 3, Albrighton Jun 1; Market Drayton Tigers 4, Spallag Britannia 2; Oswestry Villa Res 3, Denso 1.

PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Oaken-gates.....	17	11	3	3	44	20	36
Telford Jun.....	20	10	4	6	49	32	34
Ketter Bank.....	20	10	0	7	28	33	33
Whitchurch 21.....	8	5	5	8	27	32	32
Church Stretton 17.....	9	3	5	5	35	24	30
FC Hodnet.....	19	8	4	7	24	26	28
Morfa Utd.....	15	8	3	4	58	31	27
Wellington Res.....	18	7	4	7	32	32	27
Madeley Spts.....	19	7	2	10	33	37	23
Aliscott.....	21	5	7	9	34	42	22
Pres.....	21	7	1	13	33	61	22
B'north T Res.....	20	5	6	9	32	40	21
Weston Rhyn.....	20	5	4	11	32	54	19
Shifnal Utd 97.....	16	3	3	8	26	25	18

DIVISION 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Oswestry T.....	21	15	3	3	77	16	48
Childs Ercall.....	18	15	0	3	85	14	45
Bishop's.....	19	14	0	5	70	20	42
Wroxeter Row.....	14	11	3	0	59	13	36
Dawley Town.....	22	10	4	8	53	45	34
Rock Row.....	16	9	4	8	58	31	30
Hanwood R.....	17	9	2	6	48	22	29
Clea Hill.....	16	7	5	4	40	28	26
Oaken-gates R.....	20	8	2	10	37	50	26
Brown Clea.....	17	7	1	9	45	39	22
Oswestry Villa.....	20	5	4	11	37	54	19
Meole Brace.....	19	5	2	12	33	85	17
Wrock Wd Jun.....	21	4	2	15	27	84	14
Shawbury Res.....	21	4	2	15	24	86	14
Shrewsbury Utd23.....	2	1	20	28	135	7	

DIVISION 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AFC Broseley.....	21	19	2	0	143	20	56
Wrock Wood.....	22	18	2	2	97	31	53
AFC Wellington 24.....	17	1	6	14	49	52	45
Impact.....	20	14	3	3	99	33	45
Dominion SS.....	18	14	0	4	104	41	42
Claverley.....	20	12	0	8	73	34	36
Mkt D Tgrs.....	20	11	1	8	81	45	34
Ludlow Colts.....	23	10	2	11	92	35	32
Albrighton Jun.....	21	6	1	14	48	77	19
Highley M W.....	23	5	3	15	51	80	18
Oswestry Villa R21.....	5	2	14	24	70	17	17
Spallag Brit.....	21	2	4	14	31	97	17
Shrewsbury R.....	18	2	0	16	22	119	6
Denso.....	24	0	1	23	23	269	1

Ladies are looking to end season on a high

OSWESTRY Ladies were locked in a hard-fought 1-1 home draw with promotion chasing Sale II to maintain their creditable campaign in the Cheshire Womens Hockey League division two, writes John Bridgwater.

From previous experiences, they knew to expect a physical and tough game – but felt confident that they could put up a strong performance after drawing 4-4 away when the sides last met.

Oswestry started positively, and were soon ahead after being awarded a short corner within the first five minutes that Tracey Royle slotted into the corner of the goal.

Having taken the lead, they did not rest on their laurels and continued to push forwards creating more opportunities – both from open play and short corners. However, they were unable to further capitalise on these opportunities and extend their lead.

Sale, relying on their strong hits by leaving attackers high, became increasingly frustrated as their rivals restricted their possession and time on the ball, and began to question most decisions – including the weight of the ball!

The visitors came out more determined after the break and were starting to apply pressure – being awarded a couple of short corners, and were level following an unlucky ricochet between the Oswestry defence.

Strong defensive play by the whole team, however, kept Sale from scoring again, and Oswestry can take heart when they play the other team fighting for automatic promotion – Deeside Ramblers – in their final league match of the season at Oswestry School on Saturday (2pm).

SPORT

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the local leagues
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Lacrosse
Moreton Hall girls
are a smash hit
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Side face cup exit as Monty in appeal

LLANRHAEADR face being thrown out of the Central Wales Cup for fielding an ineligible player in their 4-0 win against Montgomery, writes John Bridgwater.

Confusion over the conference date for signing players meant that forward Nathan Prodder appeared for the villagers in the third round tie to contravene competition rules, and Monty have since lodged a protest.

The case will go before the Central Wales FA tonight to determine who goes through to entertain Aberystwyth University in the fourth round.

Meanwhile, Llanrhaeadr slipped closer to relegation from the Huws Gray Cymru Alliance after suffering a slender 1-0 loss at Caersws on Tuesday night, a stunning strike from Mark Griffiths in the second half proving enough to decide the issue.

■ Welshpool Town are one of a number of clubs chasing former Guilsfield front runner Will Thomas who looks set to part company with current team Llanidloes Town.

Pool are currently languishing in the lower reaches of the Spar Mid Wales League division one table, and desperately need a forward after lacking the cutting edge this season.

However, they face competition for the player with Berriew having also expressed an interest along with Cymru Alliance side Llanrhaeadr.

■ Weston Rhyn, battling to escape the bottom two in the Mercian Regional League division one, are also close to bringing in a new forward this week.

Pool ladies back on form

TWO second half goals from Caroline Jones saw Welshpool return to winning ways in the North Wales Ladies Hockey League with a 3-0 success against Penllyn, Sarah Thomas also on target in the first period.

Meanwhile, Llanfair were also in winning form as they recorded a 4-3 victory over Bangor University.



London calling Hannah Crosses charity day

HANNAH Newell looks to keep it in the family as she prepares to put her best foot forward in the iconic London Marathon in three weeks' time.

Gobowen-based Hannah (left) was due to compete with the thousands of runners 12 months ago, but was forced to pull out after suffering cracked ribs.

Now, a year on, she is even more determined to make her mark and her training is going to plan ahead of the famous race around London's streets on Sunday, April 13.

Looking to raise money for the charity MIND, she will be following in the footsteps of her mother, Cath, who herself has tackled the marathon.

"When I was younger, my mother ran in the marathon three times, and I watched it on television wanting to run it myself one day," she said. "It was disappointing to miss out last April."

Hannah is putting herself through the gruelling marathon to raise money for the MIND, a charity helping those with mental health problems which is close to her heart. It has been a long time goal, and any sponsors willing to support her can contact Hannah on 07813-586198, or visit <http://uk.virgin-moneygiving.com/HannahNewellMIND>

■ Hannah is holding an Easter fair to raise proceeds on Sunday, April 20 at Ellesmere Town hall from 10am-4pm.

FOUR Crosses FC are holding a charity football match and fun day next month to raise funds for the Isabelle Lottie Foundation.

The foundation was set up recently to raise awareness of brain tumours in children and young adults by the family of Isabelle who was diagnosed with Melloblastoma last year. Isabelle is the niece of Crosses right-back Chris Johnson.

Sponsored by Ball Sports Community Coaching, the event - on Sunday, April 6 - will kick off with a junior football coaching session at 12noon before the

current Four Crosses squad will take to the pitch to play against a team of former Crosses players (all over 30).

There will be refreshments and other activities during the afternoon including a speed cage, raffle and auction.

A spokesman for the club said: "We were all aware of how tough a year it had been for Johnno's family and how brave Isabelle had been, so when the foundation was set up we wanted to do something to help, and a game against the vets seemed a great idea with all the lads up for it."

Llanfair in shake-up after win over rivals

LLANFAIR United boss Rhys Stephens believes four teams are in the running for the Spar Mid Wales League division one crown after his side threw the title race wide open with a 2-1 victory over leaders Llandrindod Wells.

Goals just before half time from Dan Jones and Paul Griffiths set Llanfair on the way and, despite the Wellmen pulling one back in the second period, they held firm for the points.

Victory lifted United to within one point of the leaders, while Berriew and Carno both won against Llansantffraid Village and Welshpool respectively to keep alive their title hopes.

"I felt last Saturday was a must-win for us, and it has opened it up," said Stephens. "But there is still a long way to go with four teams right in it."

Meanwhile, FOUR CROSSES boss Nick Popyk praised with his side's efforts after easing their basement concerns with a 3-1 win over Dyffryn Banw - their third win on the bounce.

"We were in danger of getting sucked into a relegation scrap but the last three wins have eased those pressures a bit," he said.

WATERLOO Rovers, beaten 3-0 by Aberystwyth University last weekend, bid to bounce back in Saturday's big home clash with BERRIEW.

Saturday's fixtures: Aberystwyth Uni v Tywyn Bryncrug, Bow Street v Llanfair Utd, Builth Wells v Carno, Llandrindod Wells v Welshpool, Llansantffraid Village v Aberaeron, Montgomery v Dyffryn Banw, Waterloo v Berriew

Sinden back in the ring

WELSHPOOL'S Warren Sinden gets the first fight of the year under his belt on Saturday night.

The 24-year-old light middleweight has managed just three contests since turning pro in November 2011, but he's back at the Tower Ballrooms in Birmingham.

Undefeated Sinden will step through the ropes with Norwich's Duane Green.

SAINTS URGED TO KEEP TITLE FOCUS

CARL Darlington believes The New Saints can take nothing for granted despite the stats appearing to be stacked in their favour as they chase a third successive Welsh Premier crown.

The defending champions are sitting pretty at the top of the league with a three point gap on their only realistic challengers, Airbus UK, after seeing off Carmarthen Town 4-0 last Saturday.

by John Bridgwater

They also have a game in hand to further strengthen their position and, with a vastly superior goal difference, it would mean the Saints having to drop seven points from their remaining seven games to give the Wingmakers hope of snatching the title.

TNS now head to Newtown on Saturday, wary that the Robins have proved troublesome opponents in the past. Their last defeat was at Latham Park back on Boxing Day when being edged out 1-0, since which time the leaders have gone nine games without defeat in the league.

Focused

"We're taking one game at a time and staying focused," said head coach Darlington.

"To lose the title we have to lose two games, and draw one. We have only lost two all season so the stats are in our favour, but we won't be taking anything for granted."

"Newtown will be a tough game for us. Like a lot of teams at this stage of the season, they are jostling for a higher position in the league, and they have

proved a difficult side for us in the past.

"We lost there over Christmas, but this is the first time we have played them in the second phase of the season and the pitches are getting better now."

"We are relishing the game, it's a local derby and it's one we're looking to win to move that bit closer to the title."

Darlington, meanwhile, felt it was a job well done after TNS saw off Carmarthen 4-0 at Park Hall to cement pole position.

"We made an excellent start with an early goal that set the tone and put us on the front foot," he said.

"They had a couple of chances, but we dominated the first half, looked after the ball well and could have scored a few more."

"We didn't have the same intensity in the second half, which sometimes happens when you are 3-0 up. But it was still a good win, and another three points towards our target."

"It was pleasing to keep

a clean sheet and have four different scorers."

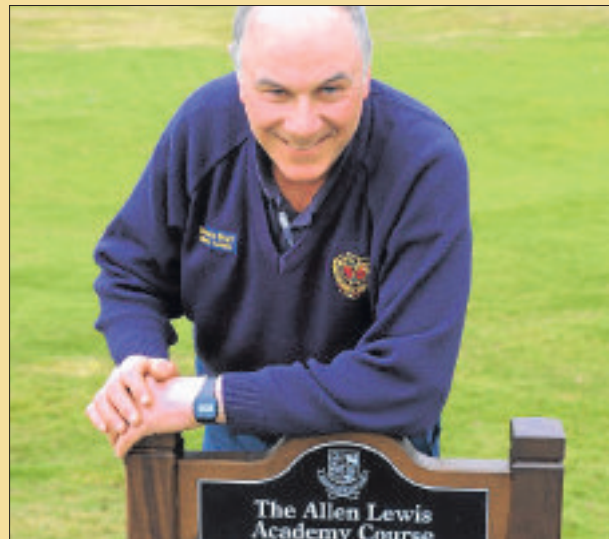
■ The New Saints are offering local football supporters the opportunity to experience Welsh Premier League football at their Park Hall stadium free of charge when the club entertain Newtown on April 1.

"Having been based in Oswestry for seven seasons, we want to encourage as many local people as possible to attend the game, let's make it a real football treat for everyone who attends," said club owner and chairman Mike Harris.

■ Midfielder Sam Finley will miss The New Saints' next three Welsh Premier games after admitting a violent conduct charge in his side's 1-1 draw at title rivals Airbus UK last month.

Finley picked up his three match ban following an elbowing incident with Airbus winger Ryan Wignall at the Hollingsworth Group Stadium back on February 22. Although not spotted by the referee, the offence was caught on video.

Top honour for Oswestry's Allen



Oswestry green keeper Allan Lewis on the golf course. Picture: Tony Adams.

AN Oswestry groundsman has completed 40 years service to one of the region's best-loved golf courses - and celebrated his 50th year in the game by leading his team in a county final.

Allan Lewis, 57, of Balmoral Crescent in Oswestry, is course manager of Llanymy-

nech Golf Club, and now has an area on the course named in his honour.

On Sunday, March 30, the county Hargrove final takes place at Llanymynech and Allen will captain the club's first team when they meet Shrewsbury or Wrekin.

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